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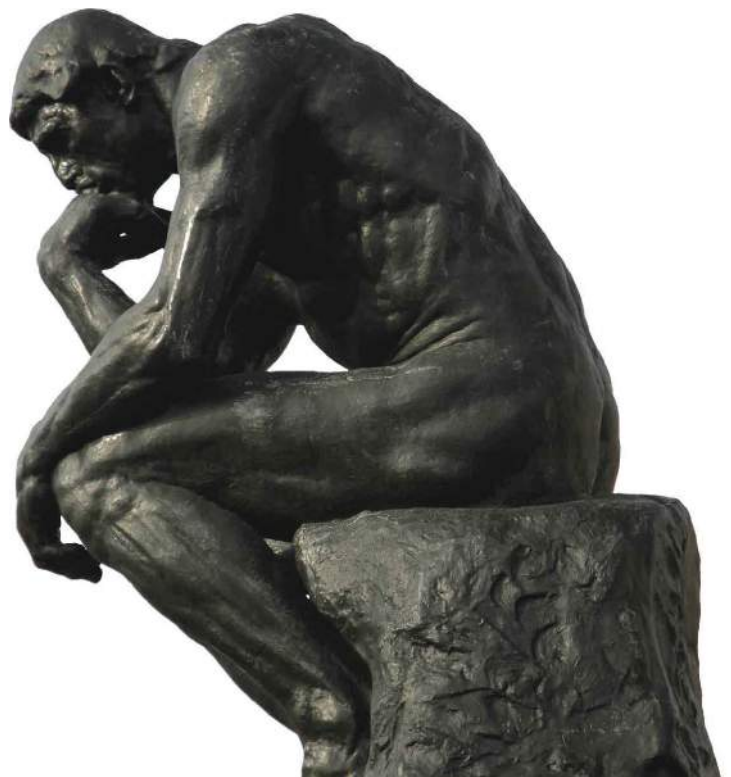


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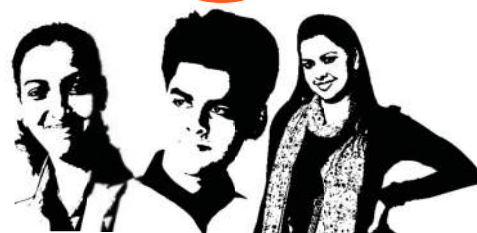
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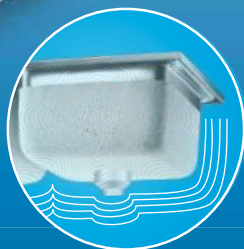
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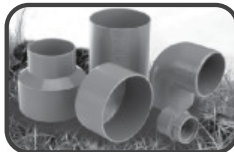
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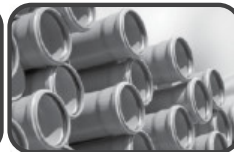
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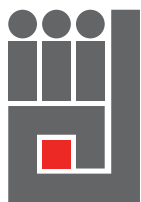
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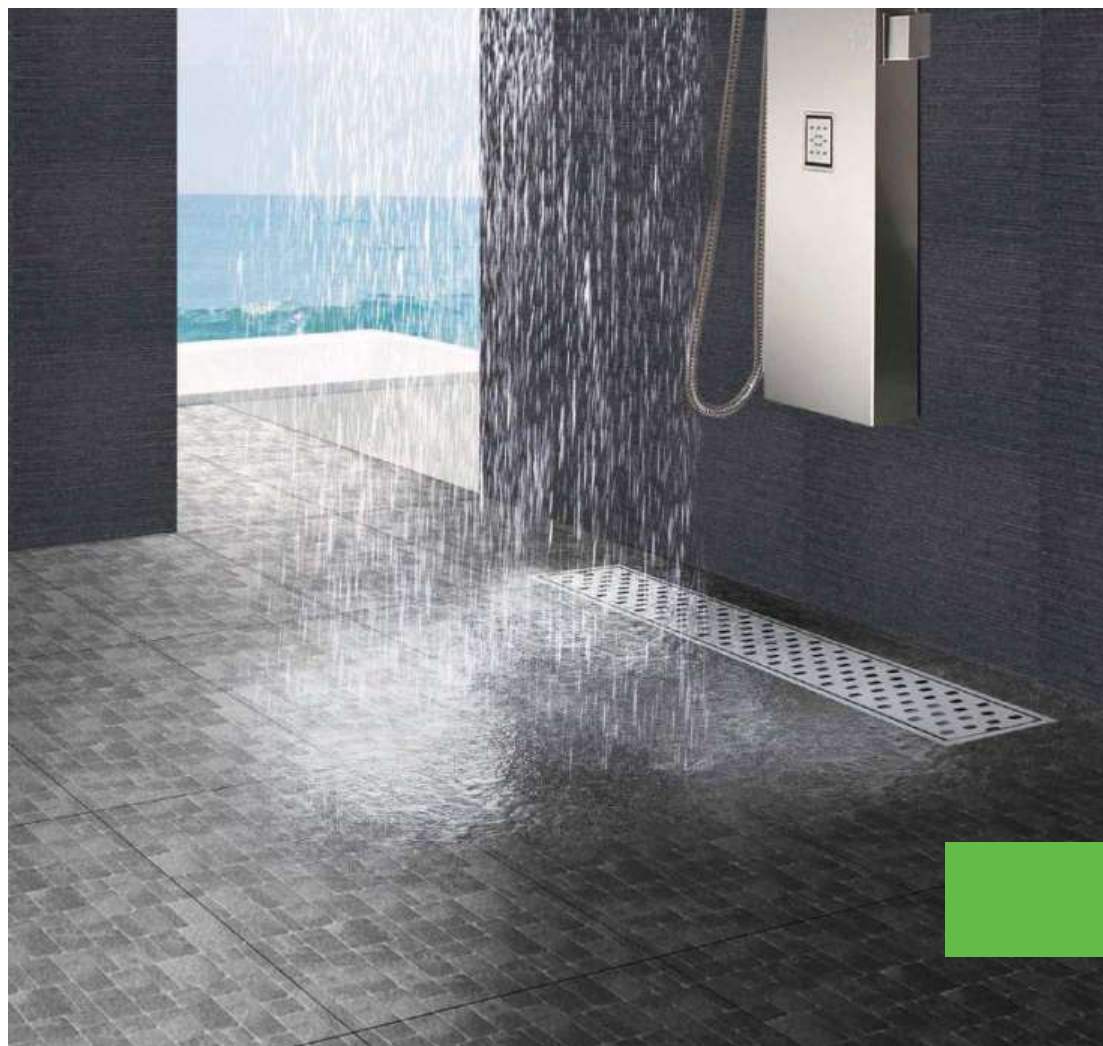
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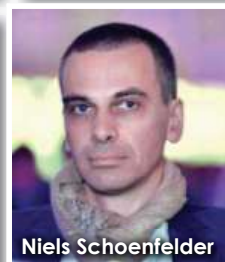
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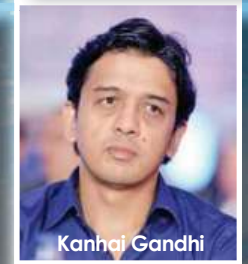
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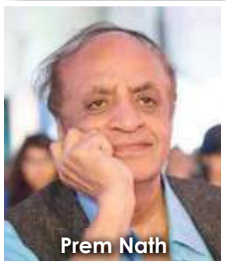
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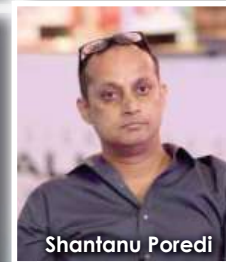
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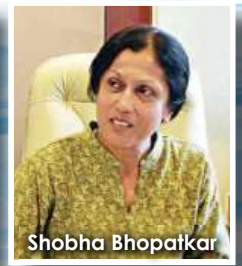
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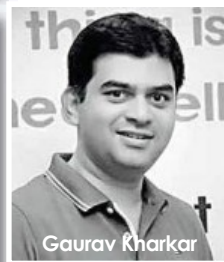
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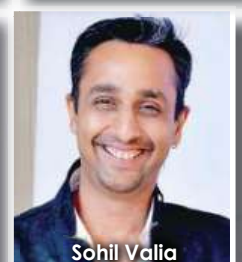
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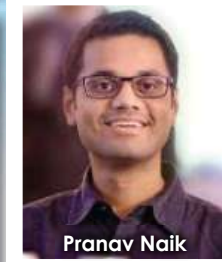
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Zaki Shaikh

A Scintillating Event



Design Wall, an initiative undertaken by ACETECH promotes and fosters latest technologies in the building materials, architecture and design industry. It provides an unrivalled and unequalled platform for suppliers to unveil and showcase their innovation before a jury panel that features leading names from the construction, architecture and design fraternity. Over the years, the event has garnered industry attention and served as an indispensable launch pad for new, promising brands. An epicenter for design, Design Wall is one of the most awaited events where innovation meets business.

Held on 28th August, 2015 at the Sahara Star hotel in Mumbai, Design Wall Mumbai witnessed a grand opening by having presence of over 200 architects, designers and leaders of the real estate industry. The show began with an introductory note of how ACETECH Design Wall has evolved over the years. This was followed by an introduction of all the jury members who graced the occasion with their presence. The show was split in two sessions—the morning and the evening session, comprising of a distinct set of jury, well segregated for both the sessions. Adding glamour to the event was the gorgeous compere and actress, Ruby Bhatia and Alaric Ferns, who hosted the event.

The event started with the shortlisted product manufacturers going up on stage and showcasing their innovation and talent, in front of an esteemed jury panel

comprising the much renowned architects, interior designers and developers from across the country. Each brand was given a time frame of three minutes to present their products in front of jury members and answer to the queries put forward by the jury panel. Following a very stringent judging process, the winning products of Design Wall Mumbai will be displayed on the magnificent "Video Wall", exclusively created at the exhibition venue of ACETECH Mumbai to be held on the 29th, 30th, 31st October and 1st November, 2015. Design Wall with its official tabulators Ernst &Young was an ideal launch pad for innovation.

The title sponsor for the event was Blue Star Limited, one of India's leading air-conditioning and commercial refrigeration company. The other sponsors included companies like Sources Unlimited, Evolve interiors & Exteriors Solutions LLP, World of Stones, Elite Building Materials Pvt. Ltd., Schindler India Pvt. Ltd., Ibuildings from Optilink Networks to name a few. All the presenting brands were allocated booths, while all the sponsors had a dedicated display area for showcasing their product ranges.

Many sponsors and exhibitors were seen interacting with the jury members. It was indeed a power-packed event with so many foresighted individuals coming under one roof. The event was a big success with industry stalwarts extending their support to the magnificent event. It truly was a fulfilling day and there could not be a more befitting end to the evening.



Jury's Verdict

Professionals from the architecture & design fraternity and real estate honchos, share their heartfelt messages and thoughts on being associated with the event.

**Niranjan Hiranandani,
Hiranandani Developers**

I think it's a good format because it gives a wide exposure to the material that comes in and also an opportunity to question the manufacturers about our queries regarding the product. I think Design Walls reach is tremendous and the organization is doing a good job.



**Yatin Patel,
DSP Design Associates Pvt. Ltd.**

Every year I look forward to see innovation and technology which can be translated into sensible and viable design solutions for my clients. This year Dr. Fikit's Raincoat Cool - the Insulation and Waterproofing solution has keenly caught my interest. The product is providing a practical and affordable solution which can be put to use very conveniently.



**Jimmy Mistry,
Della Tecnica Group**

Design Wall is the only place where a brand can showcase their innovative products. They get an opportunity to come up on stage and present their products before the jury panel.

The biggest advantage of participating in ACETECH Design Wall is each brand comes into the focus by getting a single point attention.



J P AGRAWAL, Agrawal & Agrawal.

The format of the show is unique. The best 30 new products were selected for its innovation and sustainability aspect. The manufacturers were given an opportunity to explain what is innovative about their product. Here since focus was on innovation and also on sustainability, there was fair amount of enthusiasm on part of product manufacturers to highlight and communicate such aspects.



**Ajit Shilpi,
Ajit Shilpi Architects**

ACETECH Design Wall is a platform where new products, technologies and innovations are introduced and it is good to see all of them under one roof. We always look forward to innovations and enjoy using them in our projects. From what was displayed at the show, there are products we will certainly use.



**Nayan Bheda,
Neptune Group**

Design Wall is a brilliant platform for brands to showcase their innovation, there is nothing better than this platform.



Seema Puri Mullan, SEZA

I have been coming here for the last six to seven years; the event has grown in leaps and bounds and they are doing a great job. ACETECH makes sure that every architect manages to find some time to come to Design Wall. So if you want to show your product, I think this is the best platform to show it.



Raseel Gujral Ansal, Casa Paradox

I believe Design Wall is an excellent platform for the design and the manufacturing industry, for people to come and showcase the innovation in this field. Our association is one that of mutual admiration and respect for design and art. An art conglomerate like this is always welcome for it brings together the people from all spheres of the industry and it fills me with pride to see how far we as a fraternity have come in 25 years.



Event partners send across their warm wishes, appreciating Design Wall to be a good networking platform. They also share their excitement of being associated with the event.

Event Partners

The title sponsor for Design Wall Mumbai 2015 was Blue Star, while the other brands who were associated with the event included Sources Unlimited, Evolve Interiors & Exteriors Solutions LLP, World of Stones, ibuildings from Optilink Networks, Elite Building Materials Pvt. Ltd., Anantco Enterprises Pvt. Ltd., The Experience Centre, Parmarth International, Schindler India Pvt. Ltd., Brainwave Inc., Aquascape India Pvt. Ltd., Ego Flooring, Riddhim Siddhim Steel Pvt. Ltd. and Color Tiles Pvt. Ltd.

Blue Star is one of India's leading airconditioning and commercial refrigeration company. Blue Star's integrated business model of a manufacturer, contractor and after-sales service provider enables it to offer an end-to-end solution to its customers, which has proved to be a significant differentiator in the market place. In fact, every third commercial building in the country has a Blue Star product installed. The company fulfills the cooling requirements of a large number of corporate, commercial as well as residential customers and also offers expertise in allied contracting activities such as electrical, plumbing, fire-fighting and industrial projects, in order to offer turnkey solutions, apart from execution of specialized industrial projects. Blue Star has business alliances with world-renowned technology leaders such as Rheem Mfg. Co., USA; Hitachi Medical Corporation, Japan and Carel, Italy, to name a few.



Girish Hingorani, General Manager, Corporate Communications & Marketing, Blue Star Limited

We have been title sponsors of the Designwall Acetech event for two years now. This event is a good platform to enhance our equity amongst the most important architects and interior designers in the country, for whom air-conditioning is a critical element. It enables us to present our innovative offerings, increase awareness as well as network with this influential group. Enthused by the response last year, this year, we showcased our latest global benchmark, the VRF IV Plus 100 per cent Inverter Airconditioning System, which met with a lot of positive feedback. The show format of two sessions and each brand presenting for 3 minutes helps getting the major highlights across crisply and enables various brands to access important architects, all within a day.

Antony Parokaran, Schindler India Pvt. Ltd., says that the ACETECH Design Wall is an extraordinary concept that provides a platform for organizations to showcase creativity and innovation. We are thankful that Design Wall gives us the opportunity to spotlight Schindler 5,500, the state-of-the-art elevator that uniquely combines performance, flexibility and design. Design Wall will only get bigger and better in the years to come. This is because we are seeing a visible growth in the organizations and individuals who are committed to innovate and develop user-friendly and sustainable products for a better future. Speaking about Design Wall as a networking platform, **Falgun Shroff, Sources Unlimited**, says that as promoters of luxury brands in India, we are constantly looking for forums and an opportunity to connect with the design community. In this endeavor, we have found the Design Wall platform to be placed optimally there. The team behind Design Wall has consistently helped us to reinforce a strong relationship with the top players from the architecture and design fraternity. We always look forward to such interactions, which infuses new dynamism in us to perform and higher our standards and present new innovations with a renewed vigour.

Sharing feedback about their association with Design Wall, **Purav Mehta, Sources Unlimied** says that I have been a firm believer that creativity drives design, and design in-turn drives innovation. We at Sources Unlimited, believe in bringing the best products from across the world to assist the interior and architect community in their respective projects. Design Wall is a natural extension of our philosophy. We are well-aware that the finer details of design and features built into products that we promote will be easily understood by professionals, thus, making the task of communicating the same to the end user a lot easier. Speaking about his experience at the event **Atreya Lakhotia, Elite Building Materials** says that, It's a fantastic experience to be associated with Design Wall because we can directly get in touch with the architects and interior designers. For us it's the most important event of the year. Apart from knowing most of the architects in person, the best part is when we actually meet them and discuss about our current projects so this is a very good way to connect with them.

Sanjana Arora, D'Decor who has participated for the first time believes that Design Wall is a good networking platform. She further shares that, this is the first time I am participating in ACETECH Design Wall. We are launching our new product—the decor blinds which will be soon coming into the market. This is a perfect platform for us to showcase our new product and launch a new category in the fabric and blind segment. I think ACETECH is a good platform and has given us an opportunity to connect with important people in the industry. Sharing his four year experience with Design Wall **Utkarsh Kalani, World of Stones**, says that It's been four years that we have been the sponsor for this event. This event has given us a very strong coverage and visibility. It's a very nice platform because all the other innovators and leaders of the design and architecture are present under one platform. **Krishika Shah, Evolve Interiors & Exteriors Solutions LLP**, who is glad about her association with ACETECH Design Wall says that ACETECH Design Wall is the best place to connect with leading architects and interior designers. Design Wall is an amazing platform for a brand like us and we are happy to be associated with the event and hopefully the association is going to go longer.

Bipin Parmar, Parmarth International Trading Pvt. Ltd. (Leonardo), believes that, the event is one of the best platforms that can help in creating product awareness. **Mikdad Bhabhrawala, Natuzzi**, beleives Design Wall is a wonderful platform, which has unique features. Sharing feedback on the event **Devchand Haria** and **Sanjay Nagda** of **IBuildings** from **Optilink Networks**, say that the association has been a wonderful experience since everything is very well-organized, and definitely gives recognition to their brand.

Exhibitors

Event partners and participants share their feedback of the event, appreciating Design Wall to be an ideal launch pad for innovation.

Parul Mittal, Greenlam Industries Limited

Greenlam Industries Limited, being the largest manufacturer of decorative surfacing products like laminates, veneers, floors & doors, we have got a wonderful platform to showcase our new product Mikasa. This is the most apt platform to showcase our latest products, innovations, technologies and gain recognition from the stalwarts of architecture, design and construction fraternity.

Rohit Kumar, Polycab Wires Pvt. Ltd.

Design Wall is an excellent platform in terms of showcasing our products. The entire event is well-organized and has provided us a wonderful opportunity of establishing a rapport with the architects and that has in turn given us a opportunity to understand our requirements.

Hiren Varmora, Varmora Granito Pvt. Ltd.

The Design Wall 2015 was a great opportunity for us to showcase our brilliant sanitary ware range. It offers unique opportunity to promote and foster latest industry technologies. We capitalized by displaying our sanitary range with eco-friendly, water-saving, siphon and germ-free glazing, tornado flushing features, which are setting new trends in the industry. It was also the perfect occasion to interact with our peers and gauge the new industry trends.

Madan Singi, Merino Industries Ltd.

Design Wall is a great platform. For the first time you have so many leading architects coming together on one platform and you have an opportunity to present the product. The biggest perk is that we get to connect with leading architects.

Arpita Roy Luthra, Pidilite Industries Ltd.

Design Wall ropes in the topmost opinion makers from the industry under one platform. It adds on to a lot of value since the brands can promote their products and interact with the right audience. As a presenter, I feel the way it is marketed makes it value for money.

Anil Beejawat, Simpolo Vitrified Pvt. Ltd.

Design Wall is the only vehicle in India for launching innovation in the building industry. It is special because of the credibility it enjoys. Any innovation introduced in this event is introduced after it has gone through a regressive scrutiny by the jury panel comprising some of the most esteemed architects and interior designers.

Santosh Pandey, Astral Poly Technik Ltd.

Design Wall is a wonderful platform to present our products in front of the jury panel comprising of architects, interior designers and building fraternity. Our plumbing products are not always showcased, but because of such events our products can be recognized by the opinion makers.

Richa Jain, Hindware (Hindustan Sanitaryware & Industries Ltd.)

I am really impressed with the format of Design Wall and meeting the jury members. The kind of architects, developers and designers Design Wall brings in definitely sets the event apart from the others in the industry. It is a big platform for us to interact with the jury members.

Lalit Malhotra, Anchor Electricals Pvt. Ltd.

Design Wall gives us an opportunity to fraternize and interact with the best in the industry, hats-off to the ACETECH team for raising the bar each year.

Rachana Vatsa, Orient Bell Ltd.

Design Wall is an ideal launch pad for innovation if a new product or technology. We get an opportunity to showcase our products and interact directly with the jury members. The event has a professional environment and helps developing contacts.

An Evening To Remember



Pathbreaking Leaders





Grandiose Platform



The event ended on a sweet note guaranteeing that all the exhibiting brands will produce a stronger and greater comeback next year with new and better innovations. Not just that much, this year, Design Wall will be unveiled in Bengaluru for the first time. The event will be held on 9th October, 2015 at BIEC, Bengaluru, while Design Wall Delhi will be held on the 19th November, 2015 at the Shangri-La's Eros Hotel, New Delhi ●

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SHOWROOM

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Design offers an enriching experience to both the user of the space and our readers. In this issue, we feature plethora of innovative works that are sure to heighten your sense of awareness on design and space planning.

Designer Vivian Reiss' restored Victorian home showcases how an old home can be restored through high-level of design sensitivity and innovative approach to design — the end result is a stunning and vibrant home — I am sure the readers will enjoy reading it. Also, check out internationally-acclaimed designer Karim Rashid's innovative design for Food Capital by Amoje in Seoul, South Korea.

We are also pleased to present three differently designed offices from different parts of the country; designed by Anant and Rupal Bhat, Ashish Kuber and Amit Jain which are graphically engaging and are relevant to their client's professional demands.

While you are reading this let me remind you that *Society Interiors* has announced its annual Society Interiors Design Competition & Awards 2016. Students of Architecture and Interior Design colleges are invited to participate and put forward their visionary design ideas. The competition is an excellent opportunity for both students and aspiring design professionals, to demonstrate their design aptitude. The competition will provide you the right exposure and the winning designs will get a chance to intern with the renowned professionals from this industry.

Enjoy the issue and get back to us with your comments.

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Artist Revati Malati's Pune home truly reflects its owner's persona. The home with its minimalist decor lends an inviting vibe. I would request the magazine to feature such homes.

— Tara Shah, Mumbai



I have been to the Hungry Monkey restaurant in New Delhi and was very impressed by the quirky interiors and the New York-styled loft ambience. The space along with its scrumptious cuisine, also offers a fun, casual and lively aura.

— Sumeet Sinha, New Delhi



The Balachandra residence in Bengaluru blissfully combines European architecture with a touch of classic, contemporary and Indian influence. Must say the luxurious home has been tastefully done up.

— Rahul Baliga, Bengaluru

The modular kitchens and kitchen furniture displayed at the Italian brand Stosa Cucine in New Delhi's National Interio is truly class apart. The various options and designs available in these kitchens distinguish it from the others.

— Ramya Punjabi, New Delhi

Designing an office-cum-residence is a very interesting concept in today's time. The Small Office Home Office in New Delhi designed by Ar. Sourabh Gupta of Archohm Consultants Pvt. Ltd. looks impressive with its creative interiors, artistic furniture and imaginative design.

— Madhuri Bakshi, Bengaluru





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The VMware office in Bengaluru stands out for its exquisite designs sustainability features, vibrant colours and refined layout. A well designed office I must say.

— Latitha Kudwa, Benaguru



The blend of a traditional French classical theme with a muted European colour palette lends the Arora Residence in Mumbai a regal touch. I will take a few tips from this home, while designing my space.

— Ravi Bajaj, Mumbai



I am quite impressed by the sophisticated interiors for the Trunks Company Lounge in Mumbai. The store defiantly takes one back in time with its vintage look.

— Manoj Shah, Mumbai

If you see something on our pages that makes you smile or growl, please feel free to let us know!

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All communiqu's are edited for content & length

My love for plants could not just stop me from reading your article on Bonsai's. Must say Bonsai expert Urvashi Thacker has an excellent collection of Bonsai plants.

— Soma Das, Kolkata





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Cover: Personal Style
Photograph: Derek Shapton



SPECIAL REPORT

A preview of Design Wall Mumbai 2015 -- a perfect launch pad for innovative products and a wonderful networking opportunity for the architects, interior designers and builders.

96

PERSONAL STYLE

The sprawling home of artist Vivian Reiss is characterized by its Victorian appeal and artistic flair.

106

APPRECIATION

Renowned designer Karim Rashid designs Food Capital by Amoje, a psychedelic food lounge featuring soft amorphous forms that captivate the senses.

LIFESTYLE

Ketan Battul and Associates have designed a neo-classical styled bungalow in Pune; Chennai-based Shripal and Venkat Architects (SVA) have designed a minimalistic yet classical home that boasts of superior finishes and a neutral colour palette.



128

PROFILE

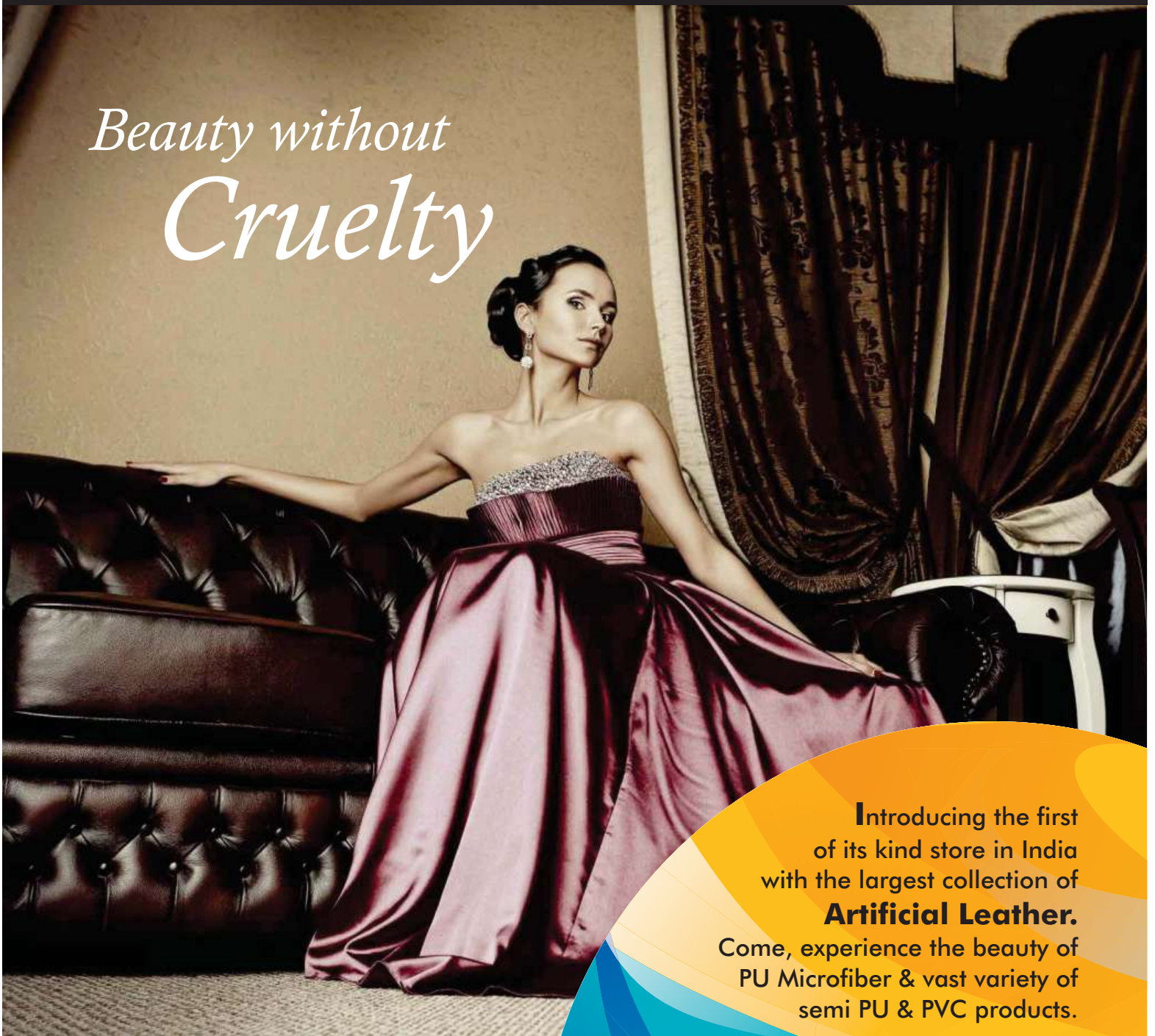
Professor Sir Peter Cook Ra of Crab Studio uses his expertise to design unusual landmark structures.

PORTFOLIO

Unique and thoughtful designs from Mumbai-based firm ARI Designs stand testimony to their creativity, reflecting their passion for cutting-edge designs.

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AT HOME WITH

Model, actress and entrepreneur Sayali Bhagat's New Delhi home is a fine example of fusing simple designs with elegant interiors.

WORKSTATION

Bengaluru-based Paper Boat's office is a joyful blend of contemporary, vivacious and rustic styles; Ar. Ashish Kuber designs a well-appointed office for Gokhale Constructions & Properties Pvt. Ltd. in Pune; Kolkata-based Amit Jain blends creativity with functionality for Rausheena Udyog's corporate office.

158

STORE PROFILE

Lend your spaces a Neo-classic and contemporary touch with the eclectic Furniture pieces offered by New Delhi-based store Contempo Interiors By Carving And Gliding.

180



DESIGN TALK

California-based sculptor Jeremy Mayer sheds light on incredibly unique and complex sculptures created from parts of defunct typewriters.

185

IN CONVERSATION

New Delhi-based interior designer Punam Kalra of I'm Centre for Applied Arts lends insight on her journey as an interior designer and her unique designs; Bhavya Shah, Head of Brand Marketing, Siemens Home Appliances speaks about the kitchen segment and their newest offerings.

188

RESTAURANT DESIGN

Synectics Architects Pvt. Ltd. fuses traditional art and modern design elements for Owara – Spice of Life, a new restaurant in Nashik.

196

SMALL WONDER

Ar. Varsha Prabhu scoops out more space through her imaginative approach for Mirco Villas (ECR) in Chennai.

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CHIC COLLECTION



Elitaire introduces a classic and exquisite crystal collection plated with 24K gold. This range consists of bowls, centre pieces, vases, among others and appears to be a wonderful treasure for any home. Being transparent in nature, the crystal look enhances each and every detail of product and also showcases the sheen of its gold application. Made by using traditional methods of crystal blowing and hand-cut finishing, the collection is available in varying shapes and sizes.

A perfect choice for dinner tables, a classy party or centre tables, these pieces can also be perfect gifting options or placed as collectibles in any corner of the house. So, add a royal touch to your homes with this delicate yet beautiful collection.

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Co-ordination: Trisha Mahajan
Photographs: Courtesy The Brand



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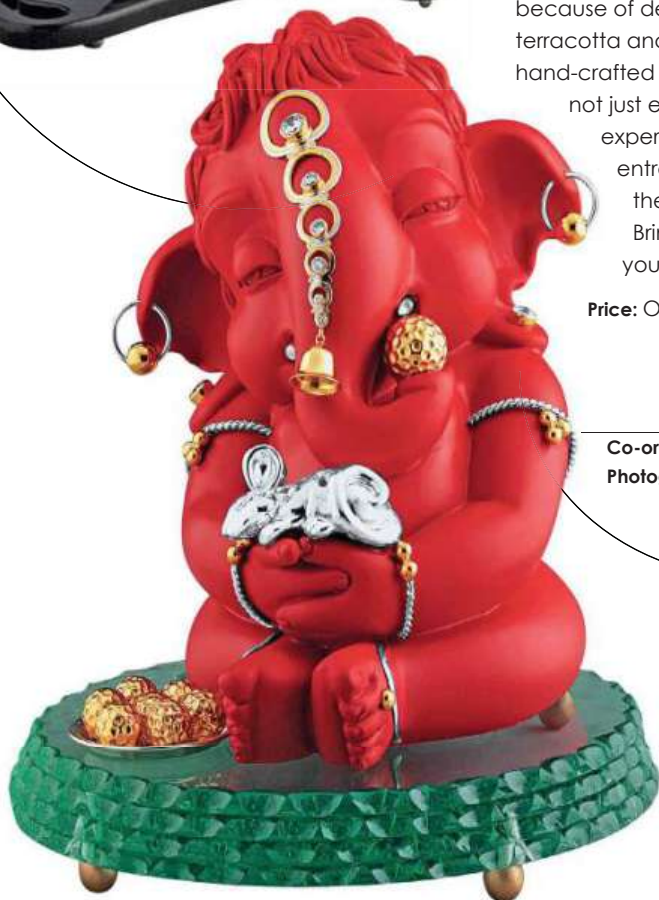
ENDEARING DEITIES

Frazer and Haws introduces the **Mangalmurti** range in their existing Lord Ganesha collection. The figurines stand out because of detailing of ornaments and a play of materials like terracotta and crystals. The astute work in sterling silver makes the hand-crafted and hallmarked figurines look divine. The collection not just essays classic statues of Lord Ganesha, but also experiments with modern art. Ideal to be placed at the entrance, thus, eradicating negativity or inside temples, these figurines can also be perfect gifting options. Bring home these beautiful Ganesha statues and fill your spaces with serenity and purity.

Price: On Request

Co-ordination: Trisha Mahajan

Photographs: Courtesy The Brand



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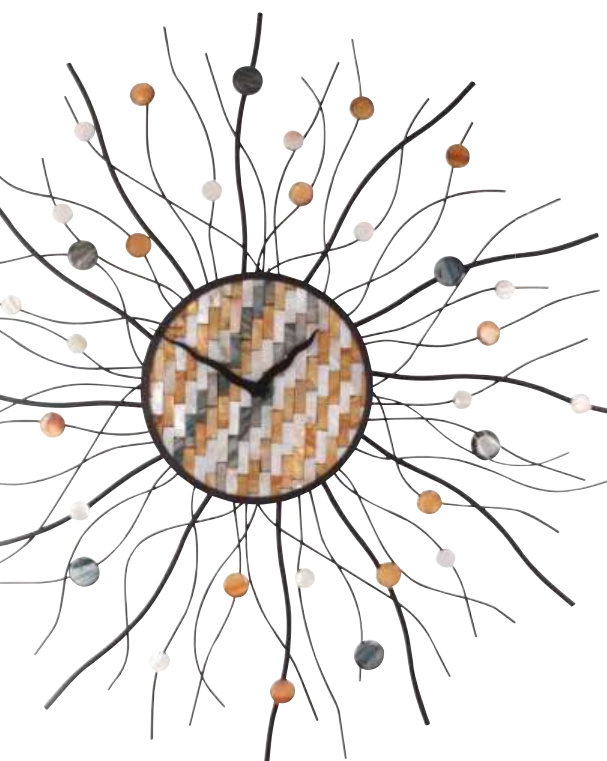
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CONTEMPORARY OFFERINGS



Lifestyle store **Spacio** offers unique furniture pieces and home decor accessories that will add a charm to your spaces. Their fine collections of home and office accessories are eye-catching. Hand-picked from world over, the contemporary and chic decor accessories and artefacts will add character to your spaces. You can choose an array of accessories, right from table tops to wall clocks and wall art. Crafted from metal, ceramic, porcelain, wood, driftwood and fiberglass, these pieces will surely add a contemporary chic appeal to your homes.

Price: On Request

Co-ordination: Kakoli Poddar

Photographs: Courtesy The Brand

Dealer Enquiries Solicited



ANTIQUE CURIOS

International Furniture Brands introduces a collection of home accessories from US-based luxury brand **Maitland-Smith**. These high-end accessories are distinctive and functional objects d'art that add elegance and luxury to any space. The brand offers fine home decor accessories like table lamps, vases, bronzes, among others. Hand-crafted by skilled artisans using premium materials, these antiques are destined to become family heirlooms.

All pieces are exquisite, right from the dark dusty blue and amber finished cast brass dog lying on a tooled leather book base to the dark bronze, verdigris finished cast brass elephant box with black and tiger penshell inlay, and the sherwood brass urn candelabra with a gold agate stone inlaid base to the decorative elephant lamp with tiger penshell accents and an umbrella. So, whether your home interiors are formal or informal, traditional or eclectic, these accessories will make your homes the connoisseur of all eyes.

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Co-ordination: Delilah Rodrigues

Photograph: Courtesy The Brand



A woman with dark hair, wearing a white sleeveless dress, is smiling and hugging a white Parryware toilet. She is holding a small white tag with the Parryware logo. The background shows a modern bathroom with a shower head and a toilet paper holder.

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EXTENSIVE RANGE



Durian, one of the leading home and office furniture retailer and manufacturer has recently launched their **2015 Recliner Collection** that is trendy, chic and comfortable. These recliners can shift, swivel or move as per your wish, ensuring a lot of elbow space. On offer are **Laze**, a motorised recliner; **Siesta** and **Wonder** for luxurious living rooms; **Club** for a comfy movie watching experience and **Dream** for a cosy nap. The recliners come with a warranty of five years and are available with features like motorized, special home theatre, colour customization, choice of fabric or leather or leatherette.

Apart from this, the brand is also giving offices in India a complete makeover. Right from the reception and the board rooms, to the cabins and office desk, everything is designed and executed by Durian. This also includes a dedicated workshop, reference libraries, cafés which can host a variety of meetings, etc. While focusing on the client's need, the designs are modern and take into consideration warm colours, type of furniture's and layout of the office. By now, Durian has completed over 10,000 projects and renovated the offices for top companies like ICICI Lombard, Bharat Electronics Ltd., Pantaloons, IOCC, HSBC, Reliance, Vicom 18 Mumbai, etc.

With a mission to reach out to a large clientele, the brand also retails their products on portals like Flipkart, Amazon, Pepperfry and FabFurnish.com, thus making it convenient for customers. Along with this, they also launched their own ecommerce site in April 2015. Shopping online from Durian provides buyers with flexible options like faster dispatch time, free delivery at doorstep, free assembly and Cash On Delivery and EMI options.

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Hästens, new **Ocean Blue** range is defined by a tranquil blue colour tone with white embroidery, aluminum plate, four-edge oak legs with aluminum foot and gently rounded edges. Inspired by the Swedish archipelago, the bed has upgraded its mattress with unique Ocean Blue fabric in 100 per cent cotton micro bouclé. It is available in four different firmness and sizes: soft, medium, firm or extra firm. In addition, you can choose different firmness in each side of a bed that is 160 cm wide or wider.

www.hastens.com



ELITE RANGE

ICasa furniture store, offers furniture from Natuzzi Editions and Italsofa by Natuzzi Group. They have recently launched **Calia Italia**, renowned creators of the finest Italian luxury furnitures at their store. The Calia Italia range combines style and simplicity so that beauty will always match comfort. The furniture is characterized by geometric lines and tridimensional shapes in contemporary and classic styles.

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www.lakairos.com



SMALL WONDER

India's premium home decorative lighting brand, **Tisva**, launched the **Barbie Luminaire** collection featuring the iconic Barbie doll in her fashionably fun and colourfully delightful avatar. The collection comes in two variants – **Everyday Barbie** and **Glam Barbie**. While the Everyday Barbie range features pretty pink Barbie prints, the Glam Barbie sports fashion accessories and knick-knack prints. This exclusive line includes chandeliers, wall lights and table lamps. Tisva has tied up with Mattel Inc., the world's leading creator of toys and family products, to launch the Barbie and Hot Wheels kids' luminaire collections. The partnership will offer the best of both worlds – Barbie for girls and Hot Wheels for boys, across an array of exclusive designer lighting fixtures. The vibrant TISVA kids' range also includes other lights in interesting shapes like the 'Vroom' – an F1 racing car, 'Chopper' – a cool superbike and 'Wright' – a cute biplane from the early days of aviation, which promise to illuminate your kids' room. Each fixture meets the brand's high-quality standards and at the same time is environment-friendly because it is made entirely of non-toxic materials. Keeping kids' safety in mind this range also complies with the International Child Safety Norms.

www.lightsbytisva.com

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DYNAMIC DESIGNS

Gorenje, a manufacturer of high-quality appliances introduces the stylish yet functional **Gorenje Retro Collection**. The superiorly designed and energy-efficient collection comprises Gorenje Retro Chic Collection that is minimalistic and simple yet elegant; Gorenje Retro Vintage Collection comes in colours like dark chocolate, royal coffee and champagne; while Gorenje Retro Funky Collection is colourful, playful and vivacious.

These contemporary retro refrigerators can be electronically controlled via an LED indicator. In addition to the basic functionality, these models also offer the FastFreeze function for intensive freezing and the SuperCool function for cooling fresh food. A special signal LED and a sound alarm will warn you if the temperature inside the appliance rises too high. In addition to excellent heat insulation, the fridges and freezers also feature improved door sealing, as well as state-of-the-art cooling system and refrigeration electronics to minimize energy consumption.

With a fan that propels air to ensure an even temperature throughout, the refrigerators also offer anti-bacterial protection. To prevent harmful micro-organisms from propagating, the interior panels and doors are coated with a special material containing inorganic silver compound with anti-bacterial properties. Further, making storage convenient are deep shelves in the freezer door that make it easy-to-access smaller frozen items, a bottle holder that ensures optimum use of storage space and the deep two-compartment shelf that enables systematic storage of items that are taken out often.

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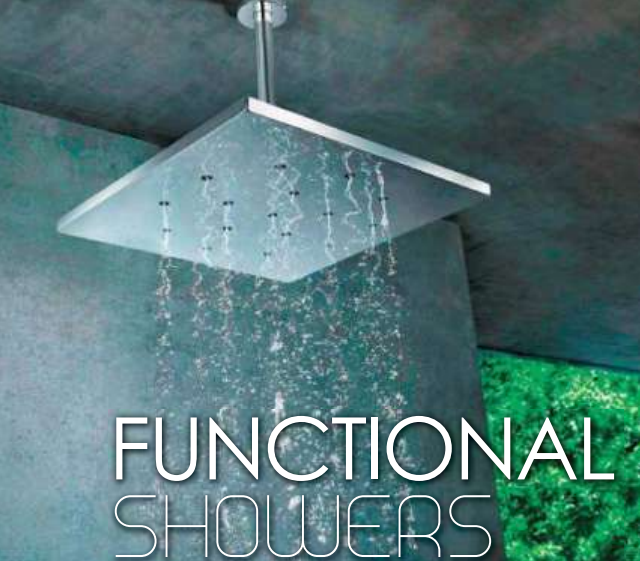
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INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY

H&R Johnson has launched a ground-breaking new technology in tiles namely the **Johnson Endura Cool Roof SRI (Solar Reflective Index) Tiles**. SRI measures the surfaces ability to reflect solar heat and emit infra-red heat. These new tiles provide an SRI value > 90 against the minimum SRI value of 78 for the roof of the building to qualify for LEED certification as per the U.S. Green Building Council. With this revolutionary technology, the unique range of tiles keeps harsh sun rays off buildings, bouncing them back into the atmosphere. The ingenious glazing process on the tiles keep the room temperature cool naturally, thus, helping in reducing load on external cooling appliances. The tiles offered in matte finish, provide an anti-skid surface making them safe and practical thereby being applicable in areas such as building roofs, balconies, terraces, pavements and exterior façade cladding.

www.hrjindia.com

WOOD EFFECT



Notion introduces wooden terrace flooring that will lend a warm and cosy feel. The wooden outdoor flooring will not only elevate the style quotient of your outdoors, but also make for a timeless look. Hardwood flooring being the most popular choice in most modern homes is elegant and durable. The wood flooring is a good alternative to tiles as it is light-weight and also gives a natural appearance. Choose from a variety of hardwood flooring such as bamboo flooring, oak flooring, white oak flooring or engineered flooring, in various sizes. These floors can be installed on any level of your home and are available in multiple constructions to allow for installation flexibility over different subfloors and to mitigate moisture. The environment-friendly floors also bear a coat of oils that protect the wood from dirt, water and UV rays, giving them a resistant surface.

www.notion.net.in

FINE FLOORINGS

Pergo presents **Wood Parquet**, an engineered wood flooring collection. Built for both living areas and commercial areas with normal wear and tear, the flooring is manufactured using recycled materials. The collection includes fourteen different designs with new manufacturing technologies like brushed surface, sawcut & dutch pattern. Easy-to-install and durable, the flooring can withstand years of use. The designs in this collection are divided in six groups namely Svalbard, Gotland, Bornholm, Varmdo, Jomfruland and Dutch pattern. The high-quality oiled and lacquered surface is factory-applied and a special base treatment is given for a natural radiance. A perfect combination of beautiful design and performance, these fine floorings will help you revamp your spaces.

www.pergo.com





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Expert Levitator Lifts are custom designed to fit in small spaces in any locations both indoor and outdoors with minimum space requirements and very low power consumption. The Levitator with its sleek, flexible functionality and luxurious finishes blend in with any architectural interiors and residential bungalows.

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EQUIPMENTS PVT. LTD.

PLUSH APPEAL

Classic Marble Company (CMC) introduces a new collection of **GenNex** engineered marble under its flagship brand **Kalingastone** to revolutionise the conventional perception of marble. Featuring nine rare products, the collection that uses state-of-the-art machinery is engineered with imported raw materials. Inspired by its Italian lineage, the engineered marble are namely **Nero Portoro**, **Rosso Levante**, **Grigio Aurelio**, **Felini**, **Mocca Marmo**, **Luna**, **Pietra Serina**, **Grigio Cristallo** and **Marcello**.

Nero Portoro and Rosso Levante feature abstract designs on dark backdrops with striking bronze and ivory patterns that are interspersed through the entire slab. Its deep rich colours and patterns are suitable for both classic and modern interiors. Grigio Aurelio has strong hints of granite, basically classified as grey marble with fragmented silica chips. This marble works well as table tops or for frames of French windows. Felini, Mocca Marmo, Luna, Pietra Serina and Grigio Cristallo are subtly styled for mostly flooring applications. While Felini and Mocca Marmo are in shades of beige, the former being lighter than the latter, Luna and Pietra Serina come in variants of grey. Marcello is a contemporary beige marble that replicates marble as found naturally. The patterns of white depict water currents of a flowing stream against the muddier background of beige.

All these products exhibit the same grainy gradient throughout the surface of the slab. An excellent choice for application in stairways, a mix and match of these marble can add a luxurious appeal to any space. These fine products can be installed in big size slabs to lend opulence or even customised as per the requirement of buyers. A perfect blend of beauty and utility, the range is ideal for application in both residential and commercial areas.

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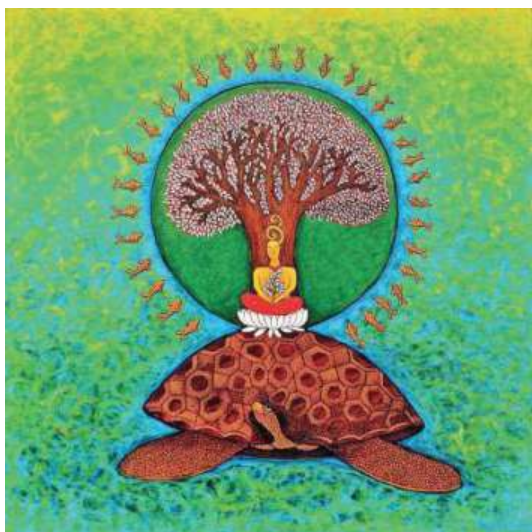
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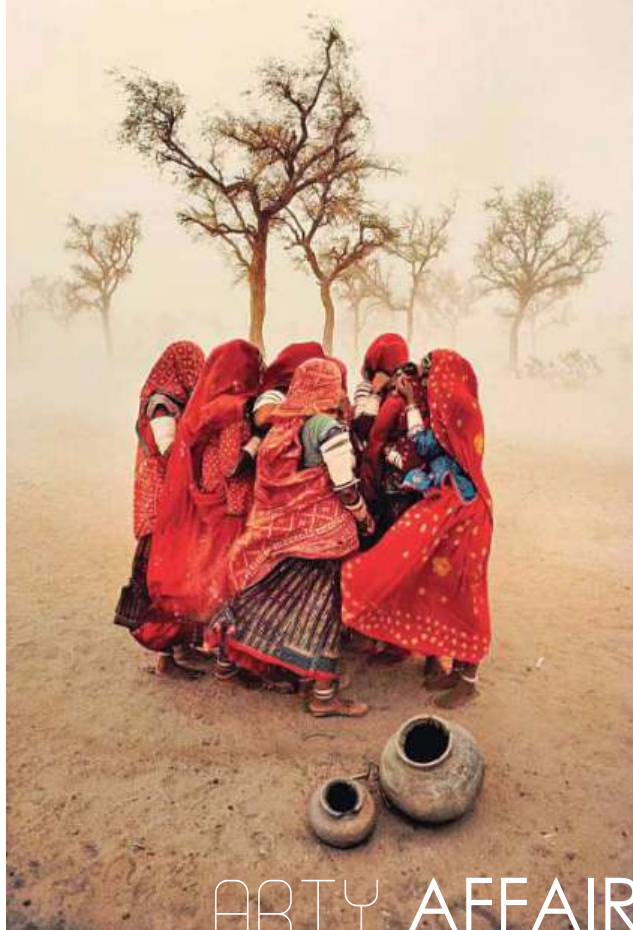
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CLASSIC STROKES

Joy of Life Series, a solo art exhibition by renowned artist **Sangeeta Kumar Murthy** has been scheduled from 25th September to 5th October, 2015. Taking place at the **Shridharani Art Gallery**, New Delhi, the paintings in the exhibition depict today's world, which is becoming a concrete jungle wherein a man is sitting on the top of the world, holding plants and is trying to save the environment for a healthy living. Many such causes are advocated through these paintings, which are a blend of Indian mythology and contemporary time. The artist's fascination for turtles and the positive energy that they bring, such as, longevity, strength, prosperity and success prompted her to paint turtles. Various experiences from her visits to farms where turtles were bred were incorporated in her paintings.

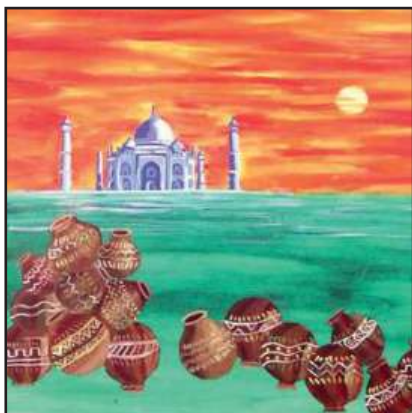
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International Center of Photography collaborates with the **Rubin Museum of Art**, New York to present **Steve McCurry: India**, opening on November 18, 2015. The exhibition will showcase McCurry's photographs of India in a museum for the first time, featuring a selection of 37 photographs of intriguing scenes of everyday life, including his early projects *India by Rail* and *Monsoon*. The photographs on display are considered iconic in McCurry's oeuvre, and some have never been seen by the public. Known for his aesthetically beautiful and memorable photographs that transcend language, cultural, and geographic barriers, Steve McCurry is a widely respected contemporary American photographer who has travelled extensively since the late 1970s to document major political and social events. His exceptional use of colour and ability to connect with his subjects has resulted in photographs that have captivated viewers worldwide.

www.icp.org

www.rubinmuseum.org



ART ATTACK

Mumbai-based art curators **Payal Shah** and **Bindal Shah** of **Artezvous**, provide a platform for children with **One Foot Squared**, an art exhibition by children. The exhibition scheduled for Saturday, 24th October and Sunday, 25th October, 2015 will take place at the : Cymroza Art Gallery, Mumbai. Participants will be given a particular size (1' x 1'), where they are expected to paint their best work. A total of 26 children aged 10 to 17 years will participate in the exhibition. The participants will work with acrylics, water colours, graphite, charcoal, inks, oils and mixed media. Some photo collages will also be kept on display. Each artist will work towards having a common thread among all their work to be displayed at the show. Around 200 paintings will be on display at this art exhibit with the price range varying from ₹2,500 to ₹7,000 per painting.

9820148450

CERA

Faucets & Showers

What do your faucets say about you?

Would they say you know your curves and straight lines?

Would they say you can tell matte from brushed steel?

And that you know a thing or two about style?

Cera's range of faucets is a celebration of craft using the finest of metals and technology. You'll surely have a lot to say about it.

The faucets, though, will say a lot more about your style.

CERA reflects my style. *Boman Irani*



FLORAL GRACE

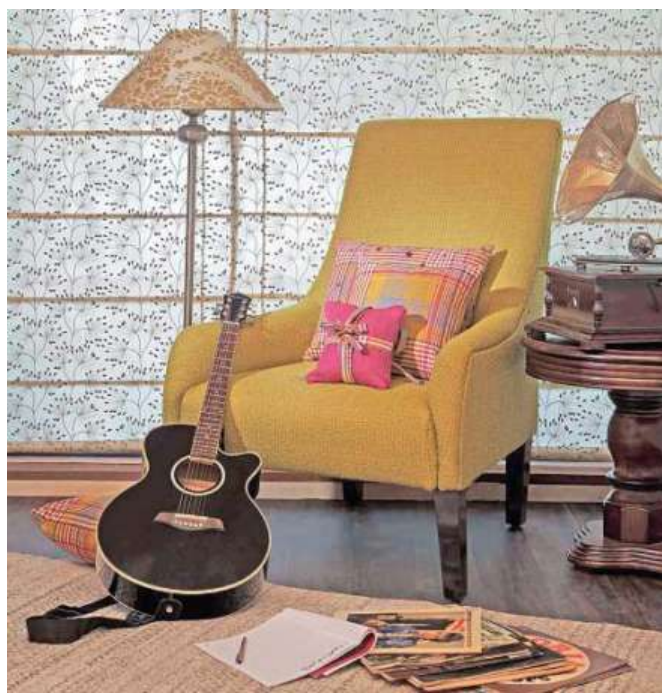
Zynna has recently introduced a soothing range of curtains and cushions. This new pleasing and comforting collection will lend an elegant touch to your abode. The collection bears graceful floral prints replicating nature inspired by countryside and English gardens. The fabric material used is 100 per cent cotton which is optimal for soft furnishing. Available in an array of tones like pink, lavender, berry, beige, red, pastel and green, the collection will mesmerize your guests. With a charming palette and elegant prints, the collection is a perfect choice for those who want to redefine their interiors in style and grace.

8800361361

VIBRANT DESIGNS

RUMORS Fine Furnishings' latest **Jazz Collection** is a fun and upbeat collection, available in myriad buoyant bright colours. This collection comprises textured jacquards, stripes, plain and patterned velvets that will infuse an energetic feel into your homes. Inspired by bright textured jacquards and multicoloured weaves, the furnishings are available in the shades ranging from funky greens, bright blues, exciting fuchsia, tangerines and deep reds. Made with 100 per cent polyester and polyester blends, these machine made fabrics are durable and pocket-friendly. Stylish, playful, colourful and vivacious, the collection will make for a great addition to your home interiors

www.rumorsindia.in



LUSH FABRICS

Nya Nordiska launched its new collection of furnishing fabrics that is characterized by colour gradients of marble and corroding precious metals. This range features soft flowing fabrics with a flattering feel. The unique colour scale consists of accents in gold, silver and copper, subtly breaking with the natural character of the textiles. This year, the choice of colours focuses on graphic designs and playful patterns. Geometrical arrangements and abstract line compositions and 3D effects feature on the fabrics. Adapted to the spirit of the 21st century, the collection is easy on maintenance.

91 11 2735 3747 / 3566

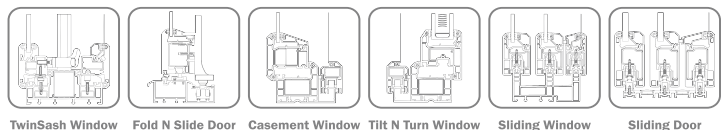
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ECLECTIC DISPLAY

Häfele showcased kitchen fittings, appliances and products from the bathroom segment at the **Indian Kitchen and Bath Exhibition** that took place in New Delhi from the 21st to 23rd August, 2015. The show witnessed renowned architects and prominent figures from all over India like L.A Khan, Managing Director, UBM Index Trade Fairs; Yogesh Mudras, Acting CEO, UBM India; Ar. Karan Grover; Chef Ranveer Brar; Pratap Jadhav, President IIID; Mohan Deshpande, Chairman, HPMF and Sylvia Khan, Director, UBM Index. Some of the Häfele ranges on display were the **Blum-Aventos HK-XS**, a compact fitting for small stay lifts in high wall cabinets; the **Liebherr** wine storage cabinets by Häfele that store wines for long periods and allow them to mature to absolute perfection; **Häfele Iconic Sanitary** super-premium luxury bathroom products and fittings that are designed to lend convenience, style and leisure; **Power Move** by **Vauth Sagel**, an electric touch-opening mechanism for tall units and the **Nagold J-Series** combi-steam ovens that render freshness and moisture to food.

www.hafeleindia.com

FUNCTIONAL SINKS

Nirali introduces an anti-scratch finish in its silent square **ORUS** sink range. Using advanced state-of-the-art manufacturing expertise, this evergreen anti-scratch feature is suited for today's rough and tough cleaning of cookware. The ORUS kitchen sink has two deep bowls, one in dimensions 16" x 16" for large vessels and another deep bowl in dimensions 11" x 11", ideally suited for fragile items like cups, saucers and glasses. Besides this unique feature, the sink also incorporates a special silent sound reducing coating that reduces vibrations from dishes and running water.

This sink is also available in glossy and satin finishes.

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CREATIVE PORTALS

Bollywood actor John Abraham and Asha Parekh unveiled **4th Dimension Architecture**, a book by Ar. Chandrakant Patel, the man behind the iconic Bombay Stock Exchange, at the Title Waves book store. As the architect took to the dias, audiences were enthralled by the aura and mastery of a man whose career furnished the architectural community with multiple benchmarks of innovations. With achievement and fame over half a century, his fascinating journey gripped audiences. Present at the event were **Malini Nair**, CEO of **Wordit Publishing**, **Viveck Shetty**, All India Head of Media Cell, CGSI, who had the audience in splits with his spontaneous wit and humour, **Dr. Nandita Palitshetkar**, infertility specialist, among others. The audience made a beeline for their copy of the book soon after the launch with each one vying for the author's attention for a specially autographed copy.



From L-R: Viveck Shetty, All India Media Cell Head, CGSI, John Abraham & Ar. Chandrakant Patel, Asha Parekh & Malini Nair, Head Publishing, Wordit CDE



ADMIRABLE DISPLAY

A debut solo exhibition of paintings by **Asif Shaikh** took place at Gallery Pradarshak, Mumbai from 21st September to 3rd October, 2015. The young upcoming artist's wisdom seems more profound, when viewed in his works. Centered on the subject of "Bulls", his paintings come alive in layered tones of a predominant hue - vibrant, somber, pensive, liberal, engrossed... portraying a host of emotions, almost instantaneously engaging the viewer. Using the bull as a metaphor, the artist visits his life's experiences, his social impressions, and specifically, his personal struggles in life. The imagery in the art work plays on the senses, absolutely nuanced, and tempered with textural overtones of either tonalities of the predominant colour or a contrasting hue.

www.gallerypradarshak.com; 26462681; 98204 60587

NEW BEGINNINGS

Arttd'inox has recently opened a new store in Meherchand market, New Delhi. The 400 sq. ft. store has been designed by FITCH, a multi-disciplinary firm. Some of the design highlights of the store are a wall suspended stainless steel display unit and the wall graphic.

The store has a beautiful amalgamation of colours like black, white and yellow and oozes sophistication, luxury and warmth. This first-of-its-kind small format store houses tableware.

Arttd'inox is also opening up new outlets in Pune, Indore, Jaipur and Hyderabad to name a few.

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Wall Painting guru Chhutkauji's mantra for beautiful walls - J.K. Wall Putty

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Indications * :

- The Imported High Density Polymer (HDP) compound in JK Wall Putty helps reduce the chances of flaking of the painted surface and enhances its water repelling properties.
- JK Wall Putty is not a water proofing compound and hence any dampness / seepage should be treated appropriately.
- The durability of the product depends upon the quality of the base surface on which it is applied.

NEW BEGINNING

CERA, India's most preferred premium home solutions brand, recently opened the **CERA Style Studio** in Chennai.

The 6,500 sq. ft. display center, inaugurated by **Vikram Somany**, Chairman & Managing Director, **CERA Sanitaryware Limited** offers consumers a touch-and-feel experience. Strategically located in 10 Square Mall on the 100 Feet Road, the Studio displays an entire range of sanitaryware, faucets, tiles, wellness products and kitchen sinks. The inauguration took place in the presence of a large number of guests including traders, architects, developers, designers, consultants, etc.

Pavan Voora, Managing Director, **Voora Group** unveiled the sanitaryware display, **Ar. C R Raju**, Chairman, **Indian Institute of Architects, Tamil Nadu Chapter** unveiled the faucet display and **S Muthuraman**, Managing Director, **Lakshmi Ceramics** unveiled the tiles display.

At the press conference, after the inauguration, Vikram Somany said that CERA has been growing rapidly all over India, and more so in the South. **Atul Sanghvi**, Executive Director, CERA explained that with rapid expansion of both sanitaryware and faucet plants of CERA, the customer preference is also on an increase.

CERA's sanitaryware manufacturing plant with a capacity of 3 million pieces per annum, in North Gujarat is the largest single location plant in India today. Similarly, its state-of-the-art manufacturing plant for faucets with a capacity of 7,200 pieces per day is equipped with the latest low pressure die casting machines, automatic chrome planting unit and an array of CNC and automatic polishing machines.

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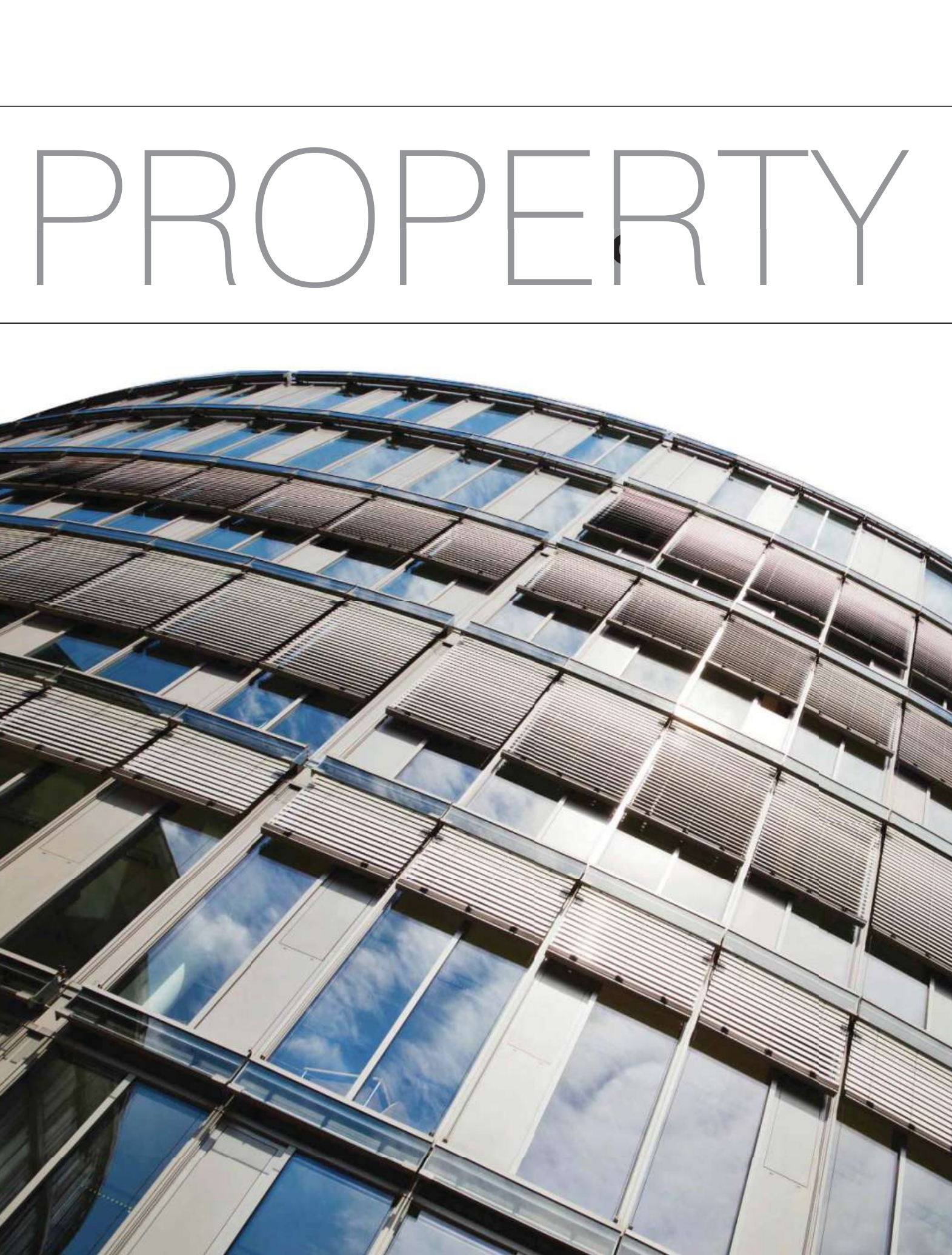
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PROPERTY

WHAT: Skylark Acardia
WHERE: Hoodi-Sadarmangala Road, Near ITPL,
Whitefield, Bengaluru

TYPE: Residential

DEVELOPER: Skylark Mansions

PRICING: ₹3.3 Crore to ₹4.8 Crore

FEATURES: Offers 4 & 5BHK luxury villas with amenities like tennis court, basketball court, jogging track, clubhouse with swimming pool, multi-purpose hall, etc.

PROJECT COMPLETION: December 2015



WHAT: Signia Pride

WHERE: Andheri (East), Mumbai

TYPE: Residential

DEVELOPER: Sunteck Realty Ltd.

PRICING: ₹5 Crore to ₹7 Crore

FEATURES: Offers 4 & 5BHK apartments equipped with observatory deck, concierge services, premium spa, landscaped gardens, state-of-the-art gymnasium, etc.

PROJECT COMPLETION: NA



WHAT: La Palazzo

WHERE: Koramangala, Bengaluru

TYPE: Residential

DEVELOPER: KMB Estate

PRICING: ₹2 Crore onwards

FEATURES: Offers 3 & 4BHK apartments and 4BHK duplex with facilities like sky lounge, infinity pool, basketball, cricket nets, jogging track, business centre, library, etc.

PROJECT COMPLETION: NA



WHAT: Mayur
WHERE: Bandra (E), Mumbai
TYPE: Residential
DEVELOPER: Geopreneur Spire Realty
PRICING: On Request
FEATURES: Spread over an area of 1,853 sq. mt., the project comprises 2BHK apartments with amenities like terrace garden, children play area, rainwater harvesting, etc.
PROJECT COMPLETION: December 2016



WHAT: GoodEarth Malhar Footprints
WHERE: Kengeri, Bengaluru
TYPE: Residential
DEVELOPER: Good Earth Homes
PRICING: ₹2 Crores to ₹3 Crores.
FEATURES: The eco-village that spreads over seven acres of land has won a citation in the FuturArc Green Leadership Award 2015 (Asia's leading Green Design Award). The 96 homes are grouped into eight clusters of 9-16 plots with each cluster arranged around a park.
PROJECT COMPLETION: Ready Possession

WHAT: The Lumiere
WHERE: Andheri (W)
TYPE: Residential
DEVELOPER: SD Corporation Pvt. Ltd.
PRICING: On Request
FEATURES: Comprising of 16 levels with 2 and 3BHK apartments, the project includes amenities like infinity pool, state-of-the-art gymnasium and open air cafeteria, among others.
PROJECT COMPLETION: NA



WHAT: Dosti Ambrosia
WHERE: Wadala, Mumbai

TYPE: Residential

DEVELOPER: Dosti Realty Ltd.

PRICING: ₹3.09 Crore onwards

FEATURES: Offers 2 and 3BHK apartments with amenities like clubhouse, shopping mall, swimming pool, squash and tennis court, gym, among others.

PROJECT COMPLETION: September 2015



WHAT: Purva Skydale

WHERE: Haralur Road, Bengaluru

TYPE: Residential

DEVELOPER: Puravankara Projects Ltd.

PRICING: ₹90.2 Lacs to ₹1.5 Crore

FEATURES: Spread over 4.5 acres, it offers 2 and 3 BHK apartments with facilities like clubhouse, billiards and table tennis room, swimming pool, gym, community hall, jogging track, etc.

PROJECT COMPLETION: December 2017

WHAT: Ballet by Maria Sharapova

WHERE: Sec 73, Gurgaon

TYPE: Residential

DEVELOPER: Homestead Infrastructure

PRICING: On Request

FEATURES: Offers 129 limited edition 2, 3 and 4BHK apartments with amenities like cantilevered helipad with ferry services, 7 Star club, signature tennis academy, Russian ballet academy, etc.

PROJECT COMPLETION: NA



eco-friendly aerodrome

Designed by **KGD Architecture**, The **Kempegowda International airport** in Bengaluru is a stunning example of sustainable commercial architecture. Director **Shivalika Midha** says that during the construction there was a clear construction and demolition waste management process in place. The building envelope was given a new layer to control the amount of sunlight with the long overhanging canopy and a skylight. The location of skylights was positioned to minimize the heat. Exterior lighting concept to reduce light pollution, exterior hard scape and the landscape was done to reduce the heat island effect, rainwater harvesting, reduction of indoor water usage in all existing toilets are key features of the project.





Inspired Integration

Lima-based architect **Marina Vella** of **Marina Vella Architecture** has designed the **Chontay house**. This rustic house on a mountain slope in the capital of Peru is built using sustainable materials such as stone, wood and clay, and local traditional building techniques. Locally available natural resources such as stone, adobe, eucalyptus and cane were used extensively during the construction process. Eucalyptus was used to build the structure supporting the 'Carrizo' (reed grass) sunroof in the terrace, and recycled wood was used for the floors, doors, windows and shutters.

b for bioclimatic

Lyon-based architecture firm **Tectonics** has designed a clever bioclimatic house called the **Villa B**. The chic and sophisticated house is built using dry construction methods and features a prefabricated modular timber frame built on a concrete slab with larch cladding covering the exterior. The story of the Villa B. follows the classic scenario of construction on a bare site, at the edge of a city. The house faces due south. Largely glazed, it benefits from solar gain, while being protected by brise-soleil (adjustable louver sun breaks to control stronger sunshine) in the summer, spring and autumn. Open onto the south and east, its upper floor is closed on the north, and the west side only has small openings for the showers and bathrooms.



Green fuel

As unreal as it sounds, Amsterdam-based **Knevel Architecture** has designed the world's most sustainable gas station. The **Aviva Marees gas station** has tanks that dispense both conventional and bio-fuels. The cladding on the sides has layers of timber slats covering red panels, ensuring a bold but understated blending of the built and natural environment. The structural engineers on the project, ABT, contributed to its status as a "sustainable gas station" with a building supported by a series of cross laminated timber panels, ribbed floor slabs and prefabricated timber roof elements. Insulation is comprised of a natural flax product which, when combined with the remaining materials, culminates in a climate- neutral design.



veritable verticals

Designed by architect **Stefano Boeri of Boeri Studio**, a pair of sky scrapers is nearing completion in the Italian city of Milan. Architect Stefano Boeri came up with the concept of Bosco Verticale, or Vertical Forest, as a way to combine high-density residential development with tree planting in city centers. The project is a potent combo of innovation and design, setting a new standard in the sustainable housing domain. A mixture of large and small trees has been planted on balconies on all four sides of the towers, accompanied by 5,000 shrubs and 11,000 floral plants. The design team claims these will absorb dust in the air, reducing pollution to a great extent.

earth-conscious homes

Designed and developed by **Good Earth**, the Malhar patterns-garden **Courtyard** home is a sustainable neighbourhood in the garden city of Bengaluru. Spread over 12 acres this eco-friendly village has traditional homes with courtyards, and gardens enveloped on two or three sides. The space planning has ensured that verandahs and windows overlook the courtyards and gardens. Some of the key sustainable features in this project are provision of solar energy, rainwater harvesting, ample natural light and ventilation, on-campus sewage treatment plan, and compressed and stabilized mud blocks for stronger and durable homes. These mud blocks also reduce the temperature in turn keeping the house cool inside.



Iconic Design

Zaha Hadid Architects has won an international competition for designing a 920m road and rail bridge in Taipei. The **Danjiang Bridge** will be the world's longest single-tower, asymmetric cable-stayed bridge. This bridge will span the mouth of the Tamsui River in the north of Taipei using only one 175m tall concrete structural mast. The bridge is designed to be very slender and will allow navigability of the river and also not block sunset views from popular lookout spots. From the tower, the bridge will extend 450m in one direction and 175m in the other. The bridge is set to improve the northern coast traffic system, relieve pressure on the bridge upstream and reduce local traffic by linking two highways and two expressways. It will also carry a light rail line and a footpath.





New Beginning

International architect firm **Perkins+Will** is shifting its Dallas office to the historic Dallas High School building downtown. The 107-year-old building — also known as Crozier Tech has been bought by developer Matthews Southwest. The vacant school is now being redeveloped into office space. Based in Chicago with 24 offices around the globe, Perkins+Will has a large operation in North Dallas. The architecture firm and engineering company WSP joining the ranks of downtown's workforce is good news for the area. Vacant since the 1990s, the Dallas High School building was long considered one of the most threatened landmarks in downtown Dallas.

Outstanding Projects

A library by **Koning Eizenberg Architecture Inc.** in Santa Monica and a student housing facility by Australian firm **Terroir** in collaboration with Danish firm **CUBO** in Aarhus are on the top of the list for the Australian Institute of Architects' awards for outstanding international projects by Australian architects or practices. The recently announced **2015 International Architecture Awards** included the categories like Interior Architecture, Public Architecture, Small Project Architecture, as well as two Residential Architecture categories. Category award winners will be able to compete for the Jørn Utzon Award for International Architecture, announced at the National Architecture Awards in November.



Unusual Creation

Peruvian architectural firm **Llonazamora** has created a wood and metal sculpture juxtaposing architectural elements of Lima's Republican buildings inside LIGA in Mexico City for the gallery's 19th exhibition. The firm has extracted everything from rooms to staircases and balconies into their grammar and collaged or "cut up" using the Dadaist technique of rearranging text popularized by William S. Burroughs. With this they have created an ever-changing construction that mirrors Lima's ongoing evolution.



Enourmous Egg

Designed by **PAD Studio**

Architects, this enormous egg is a floating residence in the estuary of the Beaulieu River in south England. This structure shortlisted for 2014 Stephen Lawrence Prize, is a wooden studio and artists home. Called the Exbury Egg, it is a temporary, energy-efficient and self-sustaining work space for artist Stephen Turner. The egg is tethered like a boat to rise and fall with the tide. The 'Exbury Egg' is based on the mantras of "Lean, Green and Clean" and "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle". Stephen's requirements for electricity use including electricity for charging items such as a laptop, digital camera and mobile phone will be met using solar energy.

Scenic Gateway

Six Senses Ninh Van Bay unveils its most exquisite accommodation, the **Hilltop Reserve**. Set amidst luscious greenery and granite stone, synonymous with the Ninh Van peninsula, the three-bedroom Hilltop Reserve provides families and groups with an unparalleled 180° westward view of the bay, Nha Trang city and the adjacent mountains. The two-bedroom Rock Retreat is the principal villa in the resort. It sits modestly on the hillside without being ostentatious in any way. The villa commands an overall space of 7,825 sq. ft. The villa's 818 sq. ft. climate-controlled infinity pool is stretched beside the sun deck, designed to accommodate ten sunbathers. The three private bedrooms offer tailored configurations, exposed beam ceilings and air-conditioned ensuite bathrooms equipped with crafted wooden bathtubs and fixtures.



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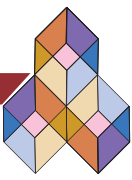
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I was born on

12th October, 1976

My favourite structure (designed by someone else)

Falling Waters by Frank Lloyd Wright. This is one of my favourite structures because of its sensitivity to the surrounding.

I am inspired by

The younger generation of entrepreneurs, their vision and their sheer enthusiasm. They inspire me to excel.

Architecture to me is

A constant dialogue with nature.

I wish I had designed (and how would that have been different from now)

The pyramids. I wouldn't change anything, because I love the pyramids in their purest form.

My best design

Is an office designed for a startup company – high on concept and low on budget.

My signature design element (one element without which no design of yours seems complete)

I like to bring nature into the spaces in the form of water fountains, aquariums, landscape areas, etc. and if the space does not permit at least a few plants or flowers.

To unwind I (hobbies other than architecture)

Like to relax amidst nature along with some soothing music. A place without mobile connectivity.

If I was not an architect

I like to get into the logic of things and I guess I would have been a good software engineer.

Society Interiors to me is

A medium to know more about my contemporaries, updating knowledge about what's trending and a peep into the future design concepts.



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VICTORIAN FLAIR

THE SPRAWLING HOME OF ARTIST
VIVIAN REISS IS CHARACTERIZED
BY ITS VICTORIAN APPEAL
AND ARTISTIC ELEGANCE.

Text: Priya A. Prabhu

Photographs: Derek Shapton



*M*ulti-talented **Vivian Reiss** needs no introduction, but for those few who have not heard of her; Vivian is an architect and interior designer who has also designed some impressive furniture pieces. She is also an artist, and has designed various multi-media performance events and installations.

Vivian has been living in this sprawling 5,000 sq. ft. area, home since the last 25 years. Located in, The Annex, the most prestigious locality in Toronto, Canada, the home is a perfect retreat.



Vivian Reiss



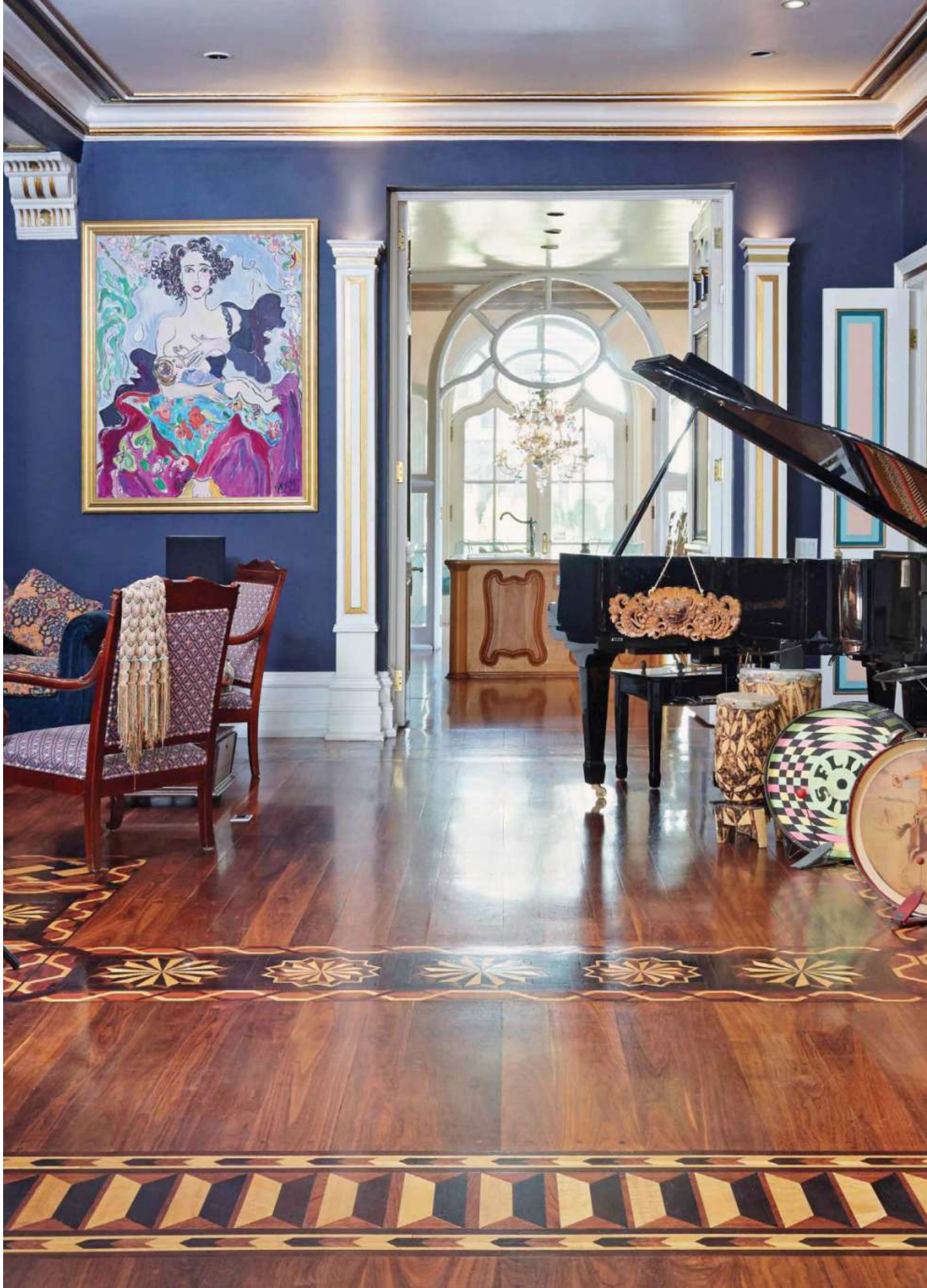
Vivian says, "The property was built in 1875, and was completely dilapidated when we purchased it. I have restored it, retaining its original character yet making it trendy and comfortable." The home is surrounded by impressive landscaping, both in front as well as in the rare part. Vivian has personalized the interiors by lending her artistic touch and has opted for a bright colour palette, creating a space that is bold and eclectic with lavish interiors and splendid outdoors.

Speaking about her home, she adds, "My home is a space where my family and friends come together and enjoy. It's a laboratory for my creative endeavors." Sharing insights on her love for art and how art has inspired her while designing the home, the artist says, "Art is what makes life worth living. No matter what obstacles or tedium there are in life; art dispels it and engages your emotions and intellect in a way nothing else can. When you are an artist you can design anything. I enjoyed using my expertise in colours and my love for appreciating art has helped me collect things from all over the world." she further continues, "Being an interior designer, on one hand the design process was easier since I was the decision maker."

Vivian's aesthetic is global where she likes eclectic homes. She believes in the principle, 'more is better'. The home with a vast vestibule is characterized with accessories, antiques, collectibles, furniture pieces and textiles, sourced from her trips from around the world. Every detail in this ornate yet classic home has been hand-picked or created by Vivian herself. An important aspect of the decor is the collections of pottery, antiques and art. The grand staircase is a focal point of the home which is enhanced by an elegant curved banister.

Thousands of reclaimed marble and mahogany pieces recycled from historic buildings around Toronto have been used for the flooring on the ground level. The home has a living area, dining room, kitchen, library, office, music room, three bedrooms, four bathrooms and a studio where Vivian works. The living area has a fireplace that features copper balls that have been rescued from an old building by the artist. The home has eight fireplaces. In the living room, a bed from Indonesia serves as a couch, you can recline on. The mirrored sideboard is from another holiday in Rajasthan, India and the two small settees are actually beds found at a garage sale. The blue velvet coverings were made from dead stock fabric from India. The wood carving is from Indonesia and the brass stars are the eternal light from an old synagogue in Toronto.







The music room beside the living room features a piano and drums. The attractive silver tea set is from England; the umbrellas are from Bali; the Buddhas on the mantelpiece are from Burma; the horns are from Tibet; and the giant paint brushes on the ottoman are from China. The paintings in the music room are by Vivian. Many concerts and soirees are held in the music room. The office has its ceilings covered with plaster stars.

The kitchen completely hand-carved out of huge blocks of wood, took a year to complete. It features a series of grand, salvaged windows that look out into the garden where Vivian grows plants, vegetables and herbs. Many of the windows used for the home have been restored from churches and other grand buildings.





On the topmost floor of this home, she has created her painting studio, which is an open space with abundance of natural light flowing in. Vivian adds, "The studio is my most favourite spot in the home. My creative process takes place in this space which is full of light, colour and imagination".

The pink bedroom belongs to Vivian's daughter Ariel. The plaster decorations here are made from candy moulds. All the bathrooms have elegant pieces, tile treatments, antique luxe fixtures and historic lighting and mirrors. The master-bathroom en suite is almost as large as the bedroom and has its own fireplace. "My master bathroom features tiles and lighting sconces with a portrait of my son Joel created by me," says, Vivian. The guest bathroom has an aquatic theme. The panelling is from an old restaurant and the mirrors with real gold tiles are from Mexico. Custom-crown moulding is used throughout the home.

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The colours used in the home are very saturated and blend well with the Victorian theme of the home. "I have used colours that I felt were appropriate for each room. Even though there is no overarching scheme, the colours flow from room to room," says the artist.

Vivian's family and friends love her home. "Every aspect of my home is inspired by my artistic personality and flair. People do say, it is the most beautiful home they have ever been in. The real success in designing my home is when my loved ones say the home lends them an inviting and relaxing vibe," says Vivian. The home is surrounded by an impressive landscaping. The outdoor areas are divided into different spaces. Explaining the same, she adds, "The first thing that people see is the public space, which is the boulevard in front of my home. The front of the boulevard also serves as my kitchen garden and inspiration for my cookbook. My backyard has a textile garden because it represents different methods of creating textiles. It is in honor of my father who had a textile mill in New Jersey. The space also has two patios for outdoor eating."

Vivian's home is extravagant, colourful and joyful yet at the same time it is serene and as artistic as the designer herself. ■



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Text: Delilah Rodrigues **Photography:** Lee GyeonBae



Modern technology and communications has made us more imaginative than ever, and this reflects in the rich and diverse designs seen today. Food courts no longer look like eatery joints. We discovered yet another design innovation, **Food Capital by Amoje** designed by internationally-acclaimed designer **Karim Rashid** in Seoul, South Korea.

The dynamic and illustrious designer has lent his Midas touch to the 900 sq. m. food lounge by creating a unique identity. Explaining the concept Karim says, "What it takes is cutting-edge technology and out-of-the-box thinking to create an experience."





Lending further insight into the finer nuances of the design concept, the designer adds, "20-years-ago, I was playing with a software command called Metablob. I realized, that I could create new amorphous soft forms that could be applied towards our everyday objects and spaces. I designed 'blobjects', a word introduced by me to describe objects that have no straight lines or pure geometry. Food Capital by Amoje plays on the idea of 'blobjectivism'. I've always believed that minimalism does not have to be made of pure platonic geometry but a bioorganic object can also be sensual."

Defined by undulating curves, electrifying colours and a pulsating energy, the lounge has organic centrifugal islands that are dynamic and possess a sense of motion. These visually stunning islands work as conversation starters and invite customers to socialize. The organic islands infuse the space with zest and contemporary aesthetics and also serve as a pivotal landmark around each column. Further, the ceiling with free forms opens the visual plane outwards and above and bears concealed lighting that accentuates the look of the space. The curvaceous lights on the ceiling flow around the shapes of the seating trees and blobs, while the banquette wall is accented by icon shaped lights.

The floor features linear patterns, creating an undulation of continuous motion within the space. The curvilinear flooring patterns are two toned with a subtle variation, while hues like lime, orange, pink and blue come together with wood grain to form the Technorganic palette. Explaining the concept behind this, Karim adds, "The true spirit of the Technorganic world is where organics meets technology and Orgonomics is where commerce, organics and ergonomics meet; all converge to shape an industrial world that is beautiful, poetic, voluminous, and so human. Flowing semantic beauty touches and inspires my life. Amoje capitalizes on these concepts and uses strong wood grain patterns along the perimeter wall, while tables and seating are accented to highlight colour in the space."



DESIGN CREDITS

DESIGNER:

Karim Rashid

PROJECT ARCHITECTS:

Juliette Hyunju Lee,

Karim Rashid Inc

Alex LoyerHuges,

Karim Rashid Inc.

Kamala Hutauruk,

Karim Rashid Inc.

Mike Gibson, Karim Rashid Inc.

ManaMohammadkhani, Karim

Rashid Inc.

LOCAL ARCHITECT

KingsmenKorea Ltd.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

KingsmenKorea Ltd.

CONTACT DETAILS

KARIM RASHID INC.

428 West 54th Street

New York

NY 10019

USA

Blobs in eye-catching colours make for impressive visual highlights, lending a surreal aura. The blue oblong blob and the curved food counters in striking pink add character to the space. Minimal and organic, the cash counter attracts attention to the products on display rather than the financial transaction behind. These dropped in blobs are strategically placed to capture and distribute intelligent circulation flow of customers. They also offer a recognizable landmark location within the space to make purchasing and selecting easy for patrons.

Different seating arrangements break the monotony of the lounge, while columns that extend towards the ceiling and separate the dining islands, resemble tree trunks with long meandering tables branching from it. Chairs used across the space have been sourced from Colombian furniture brand **Muma** and stools from Italian furniture brand **Frighetto**. Custom patterned laminate flooring and table top graphics designed by Karim have been produced by **HP**, while the custom-made tables, vendor blobs and tree tables by the designer have been produced by **Dae Hong Communication-CP Group**.

Every wall has a different style. One wall features an image of the designer with a quote by him, while other walls have curved patterns in dual shades of brown. The wavy perimeter of the area is perforated to create visual openings for service counters. The food counter carved into the surrounding perimeter creates strong visual highlights. Finally, a strong dynamic presentation wall serves as a backdrop to the space, creating a visual focal point while concealing vertical circulation from the communal space.

Using his intrinsic style, Karim blurs the boundaries between technology and organics and creates a remarkable futuristic dining experience. The prolific designer once again works his magic and transforms a food court into a space that will make for one-of a kind experience. With a kaleidoscope of stimuli, warm colours and a lively ambience, the exotic food lounge will stimulate not only your appetite, but also your senses. ■

SLEEP WELL



INTERIOR DESIGNER
MEGHNA MIRCHANDANI
SHARES THE BENEFITS
OF HAVING THE RIGHT
MATTRESS FOR A GOOD
NIGHT'S SLEEP.

For interior designer **Meghna Mirchandani**, comfortable night sleep is primarily the most important phase of the day as it helps to rejuvenate and perform better the next day. A good mattress plays a significant role in providing this relaxing feel.

Mattresses are available in various options and densities to suit the client's demand. Ask Meghna her preference and she says, "It is an individual choice as some prefer soft while others opt for harder surface. I have been personally using a medium density foam mattress as neither do I like too hard nor too soft a surface."

Meghna also shares few tips for making the right selection while purchasing a mattress as she says, "Select a mattress according to its comfortability rather than the brand. Visit a multi-brand store, explore the options available and select the one that suits your body. Do enough research and spend good amount of time on the mock beds displayed at the store before making the final purchase." ■

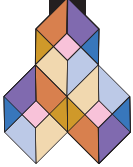
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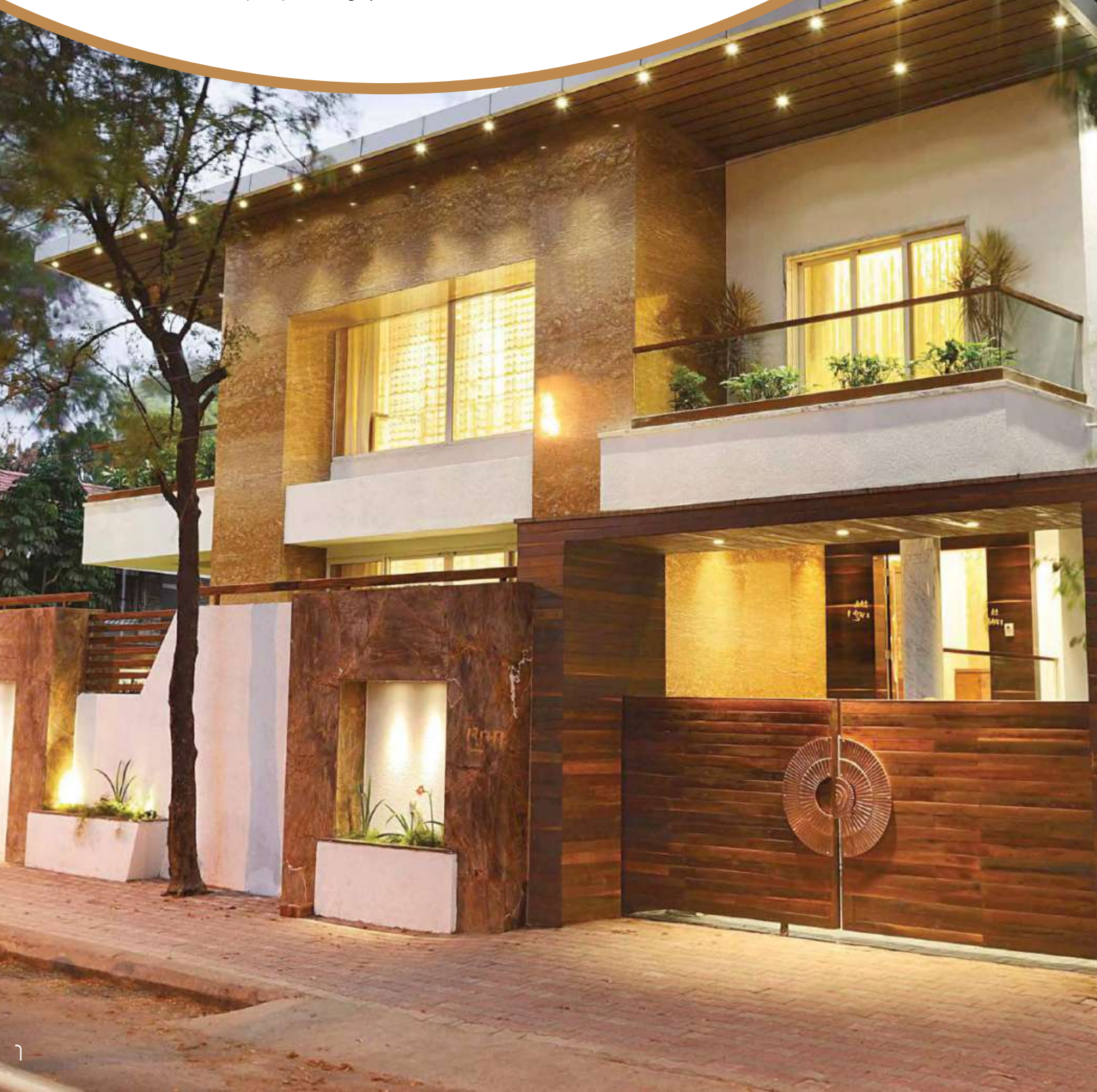
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REFINED DECOR

KETAN BATTUL AND ASSOCIATES HAVE METICULOUSLY DESIGNED A NEO-CLASSICAL STYLED BUNGALOW FOR NILESH SINGH IN PUNE.

Text: Swapna Iyer **Photographs:** Ketan Battul and Associates





1

The façade of the bungalow has wooden cladding that lends a royal appearance.

2

The living area with white marble flooring and a golden coated chandelier adds beauty to the space

Located in the plush locality of Kalyani Nagar, Pune, Nilesh Singh's home designed by **LKetan Battul and Associates** epitomize style and elegance. The bungalow designed as per *vastu* principles spreads over an area of 5,500 sq. ft., and has clearly demarcated functional pockets having their own identity. An eye-catching tree mural in the entrance lobby along with a round ceiling and a suspended light fixture accentuate the decor.

3

The tree mural at the entrance compliments the round ceiling and the suspended light fixture.

4

The chic entrance lobby with wooden flooring has a grand appearance.

5

The soothing design of the master bedroom is refreshing.

6

Note the amphitheatre that forms an integral part of the interiors.





4



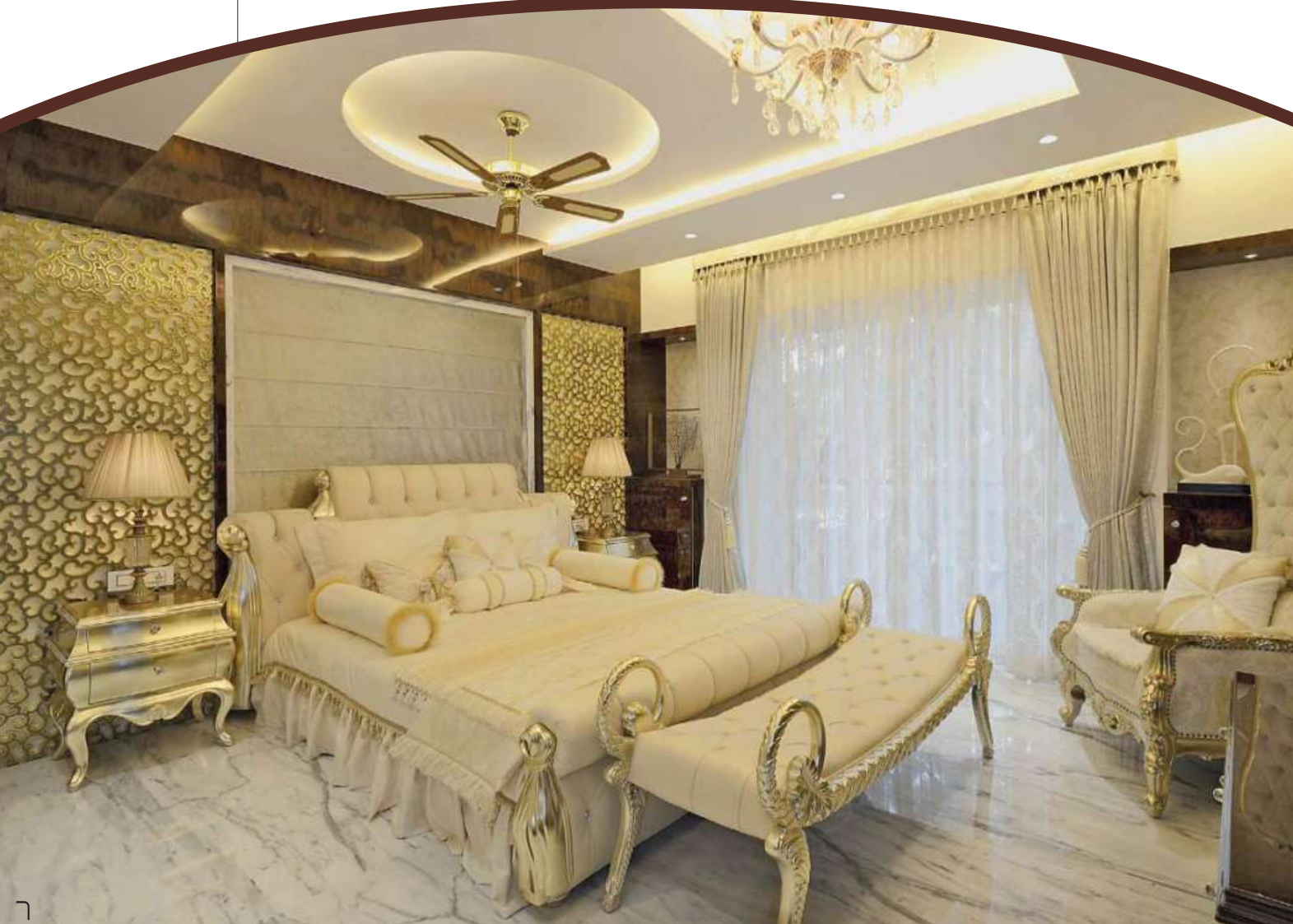
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6

Explaining the design concept of the living room Ketan says, "The idea was to keep the living room spacious, simple and contemporary. I wanted to highlight the double-height of living room so I have customized a wall sculpture designed by **Prakash Loankar** in Siphorex which lends a dramatic touch to this area."

Another noteworthy feature in this area is the huge golden pendant light fixture that complements the contrasting rough-stone-textured sculpture wall. Further, a huge sliding window connects this space to an extended balcony which has been finished in a deck wooden flooring and a landscaped garden.



The living room further connects to the kitchen and dining area where the black portoro marble contrasts with white statuario marble flooring and white leather dining chairs. The ceiling is minimalistic with a circular cut on the ceiling and a chandelier, while the backdrop of the dining area is finished in subtle wallpaper.

The admirable kitchen is dominated by a white colour scheme including the shutters, platform and sink expect for the kitchen wall which is clad in dark marble that breaks the monotony of the white kitchen. Additionally, the laser-cut front panel lends a refined touch to this area. The kitchen further extends into the breakfast counter made of Corian.

Though the bungalow is designed in contemporary style, the *puja* area is traditional in its decor. Coming to the personal areas, the bedrooms are designed as per the individual preference. "The master bedroom is designed in Neo-Classical style with a colour combination of white and golden. The furniture in golden with a black bed and cushion in beige fabric lends a rich and refined touch to this area.

The master bath clad in red-lavante Italian marble with niches in the wall and a full length mirror complemented by high-end sanitaryware from **TOTO** and **Grohe** create a perfect relaxation zone." says Ketan.

7

The master bedroom has been designed in neo-classical style with a colour combination of white and gold.

8

The parent's bedroom looks functional with simple elegant lines and panelling done in veneer finish.

9

Designed in a rustic country-style theme, this bedroom accentuates the overall look of the home.

10

The bedroom is designed in a modern theme to give a uniform effect.





11

The functional bathroom has high-end fittings.



12



13

12

The spacious and chic master washroom has high-end sanitary ware and fittings.

13

The parent's washroom is designed in combination of Italian marble and mirror to give a spacious

The elder son's bedroom has a rustic country-style theme. "A lot of leather has been used for the bed backs and wardrobe shutters. The idea was to keep the bedroom rustic but with clean and neat lines. The primary feature of the bedroom is the wood ceiling which are used in different sizes and in different levels, giving an overall dramatic look," says Ketan.

The younger son's bedroom is designed keeping in mind a modern theme. A curve theme is repeated in all the edges throughout the bedroom in furniture pieces, wardrobes and ceiling to give a uniform effect. Majority of the furniture pieces are in white lamination, while the colour and freshness is brought out through the furnishings.

"The parent's bedroom is designed using simple and elegant lines, with a straight vertical leather headboard. All the panelling is in veneer finish with lamination blending perfectly with each other to give a harmonious effect of simplicity and elegance.

Ketan's design vision along with apt sourcing of decorative light fixtures and artefacts has resulted into a picture perfect home for the Singhs. ■



AR. KETAN BATTUL



Based in Pune, Ar. Ketan Battul, has specialized in various luxurious residential and commercial projects. Prior to launching his own enterprise, Ketan worked with Nitin Tawal, one of the renowned interior designers in Pune. As for his accomplishments, he was entrusted with the responsibility of designing the interiors for Syntel, which is also one of his most cherished projects.

KETAN BATTUL AND ASSOCIATES

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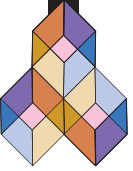
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Simplistic **AURA**

CHENNAI-BASED **SHRIPAL AND VENKAT ARCHITECTS (SVA)** HAVE DESIGNED A MINIMALISTIC YET CLASSIC HOME THAT BOASTS OF SUPERIOR FINISHES AND A NEUTRAL COLOUR PALETTE.

Text: Delilah Rodrigues **Photographs:** Binit Tanna





E

xtravagant and opulent interiors are no more the be all and end all of home interiors. Home owners today want their homes to be unpretentious yet elegant. The 'less is more' principle is favoured more now than ever. Principal Architect **Shripal Munshi** of Chennai-based design firm **Shripal and Venkat Architects (SVA)** followed this very design philosophy to design a home for an accomplished and reputed surgeon. Situated on Boat Club Road, one of the swankiest addresses in Chennai, the home spreads over four floors. With a total area of 17,000 sq. ft., the client wanted each floor to have immaculately appointed and fitted out individual apartments of 4,400 sq. ft. for his family.



A panorama view of the living-cum-dining area. Note the custom-designed marble mosaic wall that is dramatic and elegant.



Aptly named Skydeck, the *vastu*-compliant villa features extra-wide decks that open up to the sky and face the East. These decks are staggered to achieve double-height space for trees and landscape on each floor. Shedding light on the brief given by the client, the architect says, "The client wanted a simple home with interiors that would match the venerable Boat Club Road history and legacy. Being an well-known surgeon, he expected the highest level of dedication, precision and involvement from us." He further adds, "Since we have done both the architecture and the interiors, we created decks that define the principal façade of the building and also offer splendid views. Corner windows allow cross ventilation, while large openings flood the interiors with abundant natural light."

Shripal and his team comprising **Sundarvelan CMS, Ashwini D, Noorul Habeeb, Saranya** and **M Mohan** took into consideration every prerequisite of the client. An open plan philosophy was followed while designing the living-cum-dining space which sprawls over 1,000 sq. ft. and forms the social heart of the apartment. Devoided of columns and beams, this area allows the owners to have flexible options for seating and entertaining. An adjoining extra spacious skydeck with planters and small trees brings some green respite. The focal point of the living room is a custom-designed 30-feet long marble mosaic wall clad with unfinished and unsealed laser-cut beige travertine. A high-gloss polyester coated panel with Sapele veneer forms the backdrop for an LCD and media unit. Two signature lighting fixtures from lighting brand **Comely** further accentuate the decor of this space.

Cleverly placed dining tables, chairs and a console made using handpicked Burl veneers are sourced from US-based brand **Hopkins**. Further, the use of white Greek Thassos Marble for the flooring completes the look of this space. Other areas like the bedrooms and the kitchen are placed around the living-cum-dining area, resulting in elimination of long corridors and consequent wastage of space.

2

The extra-wide sky deck that opens up to the sky makes for a cosy corner.

3

The master bedroom features Burl finished furniture and a striking leather headboard.

4

Rich veneers and a subtle colour palette accentuate the look of the guest bedroom.





5

5

The functionally-efficient kitchen is fitted with hi-end appliances.

6

Silver grey travertine is used predominantly for the master bathroom.

Speaking about the colour scheme and material palette, Shripal says, "A neutral palette with off whites, beige and hand-picked veneers and hardwood drive the basic colour scheme and material palette. The Burl finished dining table and a media console create a perfect counterpoint. Muted grey sofas in plush leather are complemented by travertine and ebony coffee tables." Moving ahead we have the kitchen, which features a panelled kitchen unit with rough oak and a white lacquer finish from the brand **ALNO**. Fitted with **Siemens** appliances, the kitchen which has two large windows on the West and North to ensure ample natural light and air flow is a gourmet's delight. Anti-skid whole body vitrified tiles from tile brand **White Horse** and bronze highlighter tiles for the walls complete the exquisite composition of the functionally-efficient kitchen.



6



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Note the arresting exterior façade of the building.

With the use of contrasting textures and neutral colours, the architect and his team carved a distinctive theme for every bedroom. The bespoke master bedroom is characterized by Burl finished furniture and a striking leather headboard. The master bathroom is an exclusive haven. Silver grey travertine is used predominantly for the walls and the flooring. All sanitary fittings are sourced from the brands **Duravit** and CP fittings from **Hans Grohe**. The three guest bedrooms feature shades of rich veneers like American Walnut and Coco Bolo with complementing black and burgundy leather beds. One of the guest bedrooms is accentuated by high-gloss lacquer finish cabinetry and beds sourced from furniture brand **Frandsen**, while the other bedroom has custom-made grooved wenge veneer wardrobes and cabinets. The lighting used across the home not only highlights various decor elements, but also elevates the overall ambience of the home. "We have used indirect diffused cove lights, downlights and feature lights, all LEDs depending on the various areas, feature walls and zones to be highlighted," says the architect.

The architect has used a combination of both custom-designed elements and furniture pieces, handpicked from the best manufacturers in the US, Europe and China, to lend the home an exclusive aura. With an extensive design vocabulary and the use of premium materials and finishes, the firm has created an inviting and homely abode. ■



AR. SHRIPAL MUNSHI



Shripal and Venkat Architects (SVA) is a boutique architectural and interior design firm based out of Chennai. Their projects are based on the principles of creating clean, positive, well-lit and airy spaces. Obsessive about detailing and compulsive about their design explorations, the firm through their work aims to bring order in their client's environments.

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DESIGNS PAR EXCELLENCE

SIR PETER COOK RA
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USES HIS EXPERTISE
TO DESIGN UNUSUAL
LAND MARK
BUILDINGS.

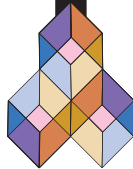
Text: Trisha Mahajan

Photographs: Courtesy Ronald Kreimel,
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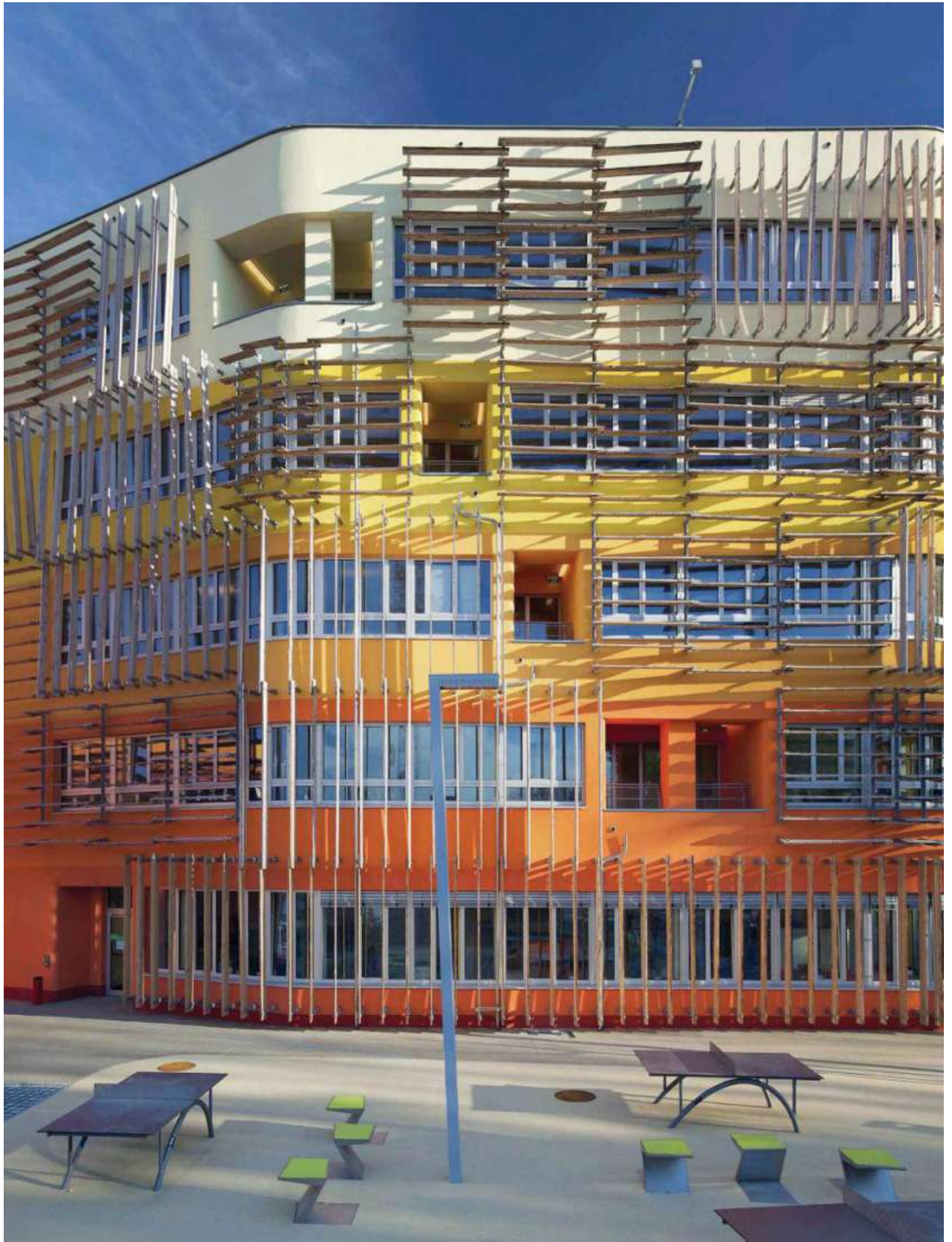


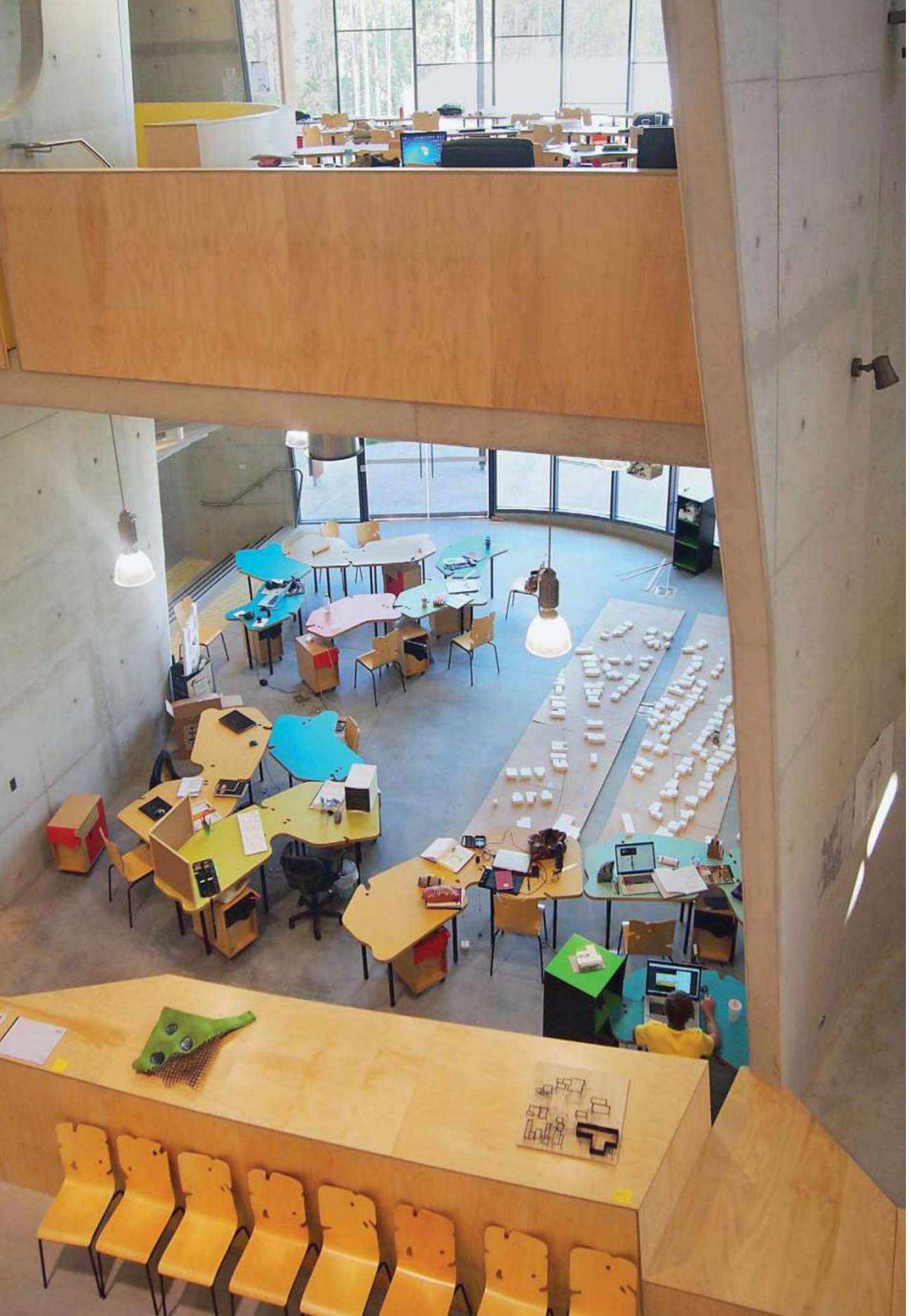
R

egarded as Picasso of Architecture, the 78-year-old Professor Sir Peter Cook RA of Cook Robotham Architectural Bureau Ltd. (CRAB Studio) is known for his smart designs and architectural wonders. The multi-talented architect is also into teaching and writing books.

The founder of **Archigram** and former Director of the **Institute of Contemporary Arts, London (ICA)** and **The Bartlett School of Architecture** at University College, London; he has been a pivotal figure within the global architectural world for over half a century. Sir Peter has been acknowledged for making waves in the architectural circles starting from his early works like Plug-in City, Instant City, Arcadia City, Pinto Town Centre to the off late completed projects like arts building in Graz, Vienna University of Economics and Business in Austria, Abedian School of Architecture in Australia to name a few.

He has won numerous honors and awards in his career namely Emeritus Professor, Blas Pascal University, Argentina, Honorary Doctorate of Technology, Lund University, Sweden, Title of the Royal Academy of Arts, Knighted in Queen's Honours' list, Los Angeles Prize of the AIA and Gas Council House Design among others.

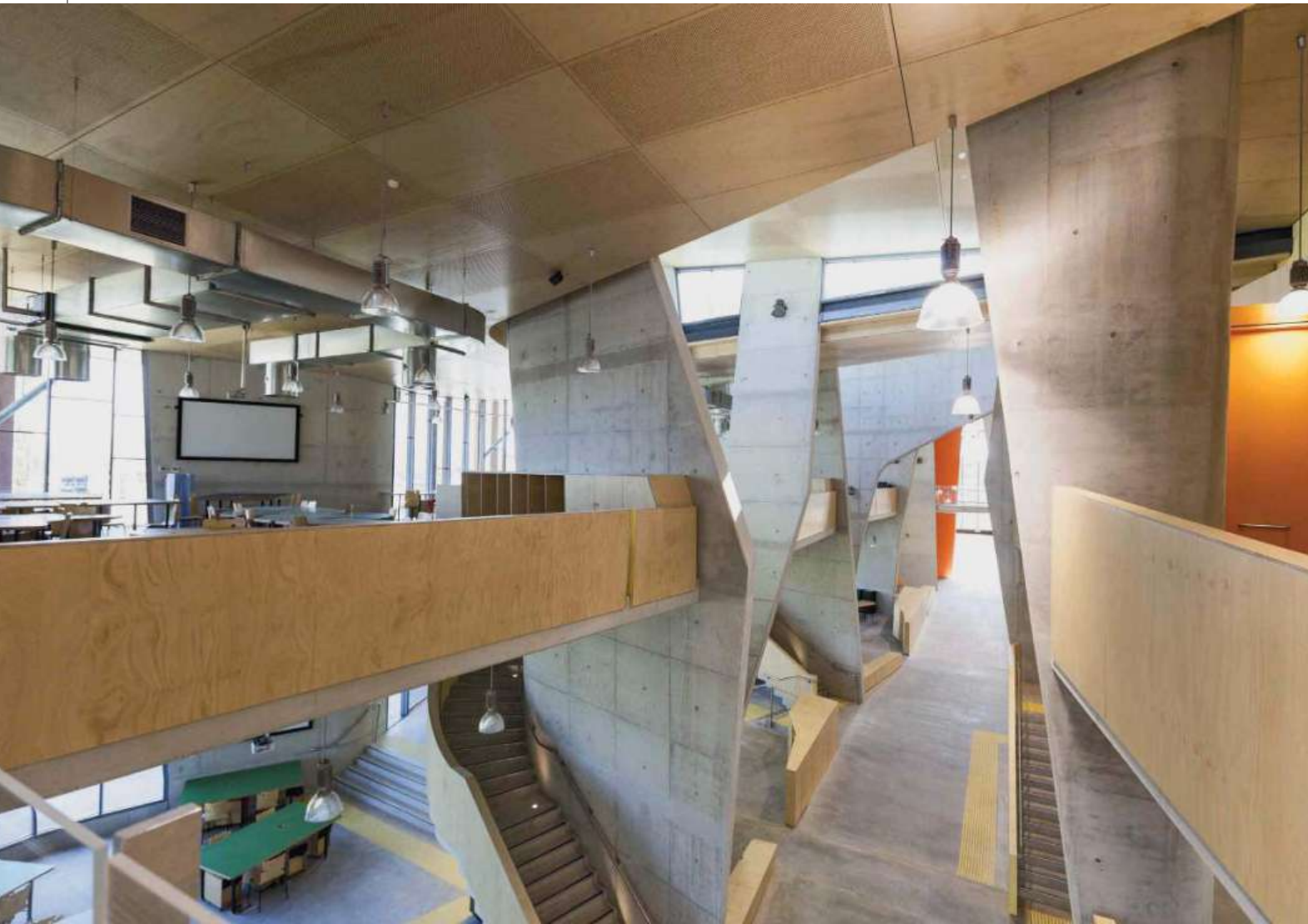




Let's have a closer look at some of the projects designed by Sir Peter Cook.

ABEDIAN SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, AUSTRALIA

Spread over an area of 9,680 sq. m., this new architectural building at Bond University was designed keeping in mind the school's curriculum. A long and airy loft on two to three levels articulated by a series of scoops defines the enclosed structure that can be used for casual meetings and other sessions.





The building has been kept airy considering the hot and sticky climate and folds over upon itself in a series of fan-like roofs and slits. It features a central corridor that runs along the length of the building. Lot of shared open free space has been created so that the students can learn by seeing and not just be left confined in closed rooms. Huge curved concrete walls along the central corridor helps in creating private spaces. The interiors boast of a raw palette and features exposed concrete and plywood with splashes of orange and yellow paint in certain areas. The full-length glass window extended from the floor-to-ceiling floods the interiors with light and connects the interiors with the outdoors.



**DEPARTMENTS OF LAW AND
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION, VIENNA
UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS AND
BUSINESS, AUSTRIA**

Spread over six floors with a basement in a sprawling 20,150 sq. m. area, the building is a result of a three stage competition and boasts of a design that originates from the belief that a lively and successful college building should have engaging internal spaces that are not just seminar rooms or offices but spaces that one can look forward to hang out or stay around after class. The two buildings are linked at the cheerful rounded corners of the coffee shop (tip of the administration building) and the student's common room (corner of the law building) in order to greet the visitor. The law library gets its roof through a series of terraced garden decks which also connects the open spaces of central courtyard of the university with Prater Gardens.





There are passages under the body of the building that reinforce this connection. A series of private study capsules form a part of the library spaces. The law building is designed in a zigzag pattern that in turn creates sunshine corners, thereby, bringing natural light into the building. The bold colours both internally and externally bring life into the campus. The exterior is draped by a layer of natural timber louvers that partially deal with sun shade and respond to the woodlands that surround the campus. In totality, the project is inspired by landscape formation (that over time will be infested with vegetation) and by the desire to encourage animation on the decks and all available surfaces.

KUNSTHAUS GRAZ, AUSTRIA

Also known as the Graz Art Museum, this public art gallery is spread over a sprawling 11,000 sq. m. and was built as a part of European Capitals of Culture celebrations in 2003 reflecting the city's reputation for experimental design and ever since then this structure has become an architectural landmark in Graz. Developed as an institution to stage international exhibitions of multi-disciplinary, modern and contemporary art from 1960's till date, Kunsthaus Graz doesn't maintain permanent exhibitions but presents and procures contemporary art productions. The gigantic building affectionately known as the friendly alien by its creators is quite unusual to look at and differs from other conventional exhibitions because of its organic shape and a skin made of iridescent blue acrylic panels.





Fluorescent rings are embedded in the outer skin and each light ring functions as a pixel which is served by a central computer. Kunsthaus Graz is indeed a pioneer example of integrated responsive façade illumination.

Using his proficiency and years of experience, Sir Peter Cook continues to design complex and innovative structures, buildings and landscapes at a variety of scales. ■



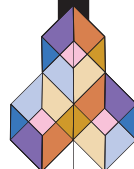
The Learning Curve School and Day Care at Thane



Studio JAS, Prabhadevi



Goldmine Advertising, Mumbai



DIVERSE DESIGNS

UNIQUE AND THOUGHTFUL
DESIGNS FROM MUMBAI-BASED
FIRM **ARI DESIGNS** STAND
TESTIMONY TO THEIR CREATIVITY,
REFLECTING THEIR PASSION FOR
CUTTING-EDGE DESIGNS.

Text: Priya A. Prabhu **Photographs:** Prashant Bhat & Harsh Jain



Sleek
International,
Mumbai



Team ARI Designs

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headed by interior designers **Anant Bhat** and **Rupal Bhat**, **ARI Designs**, is a niche design consultancy firm, established in the year 2000 in Mumbai. Right from its inception, the firm has won numerous awards like the IIID MK Awards 2001, runner up award in the office design category. Their projects include workspace design, educational and institutional design, retail, residential and hospitality design. Almost 90 per cent of the firm's portfolio consists of corporate interiors. Over the years, they have worked with a number of Indian and multi-national corporate clients.

In conversation with *Society Interiors*, Anant & Rupal Bhat tell us about their creative journey and their design philosophy.

Tell our readers about your projects in the interior design segment?

As a design consultancy firm, we specialize in commercial interiors. For a number of years, we were associated with a New Delhi-based design firm where we worked on a few challenging media houses in the country. Along the way, we learnt, grew and did numerous projects of varying sizes for both Indian and multi-national corporate companies. We have designed projects in various segments in the commercial space ranging from corporate offices and back offices, to standardized office and technical spaces.

Your forte lies in designing commercial spaces. Kindly explain your design process.

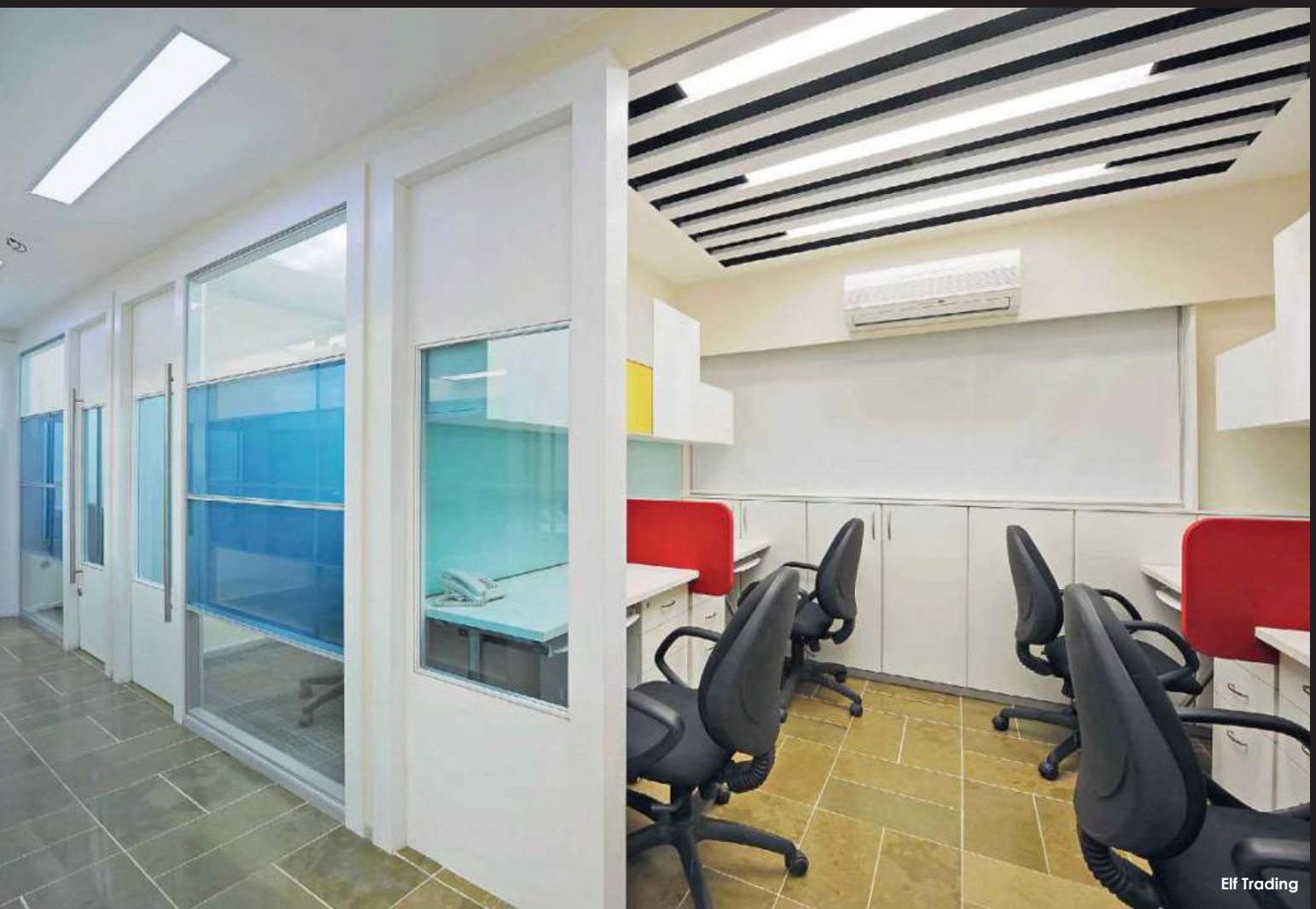
The first step lies in understanding the client profile; later we interact with the teams to understand their work profiles and functional requirements. No two clients have the same design requirements even though they might be from the same industry; their DNA is what brings about the solution. The design solution is not just about aesthetic but the one that works. As Steve Jobs said "Design is not just what it looks like or feels like, design is how it works".



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Where do you get your design inspiration from?

Our inspiration comes from loving our work. Happy clients, who have stayed with us always, motivate us to perform better. Design inspiration comes from some of the most mundane things that we see around us. For us design is not about current market trends or styling. We believe design must reflect the practical and the aesthetic aspect of a workspace. But above all, design must primarily serve the needs of the people using that space, because good design in the workspace eventually pays back in tangible and intangible forms to our clients.

What are the USP's of your projects?

As consultants, we provide our knowledge and expertise. Design is constantly evolving, and it is becoming more people-centric. The space that we design has to reflect and achieve the needs of the user and meet their expectations. The USP of all our projects is that we recognize and accept the fact that we are in the people business and our design has to satisfy the needs, hopes and aspirations of the people who engage us.

There is a general awareness on being eco-friendly, what is your approach on the same while designing your projects?

Eco-friendly for us is not a style statement but a philosophy that we have followed for a long time. We follow the principle 'We use less and get more'. For all our projects we start from the amount of paper we use, to maximize the use of the basic materials that go into construction and reduce wastage, to using technology to consume less be it water or power, for the client on a recurring basis.



From a pool of projects designed by the firm, we present the top six projects completed by the firm.

Media Centre for one of India's leading financial institution

The project was remodelling an existing area on the ground floor of the client's corporate office headquarterd in Mumbai. The brief was to design a multi-functional space equipped with the latest technology. This space is used by senior management and leaders for various functions/events of the company. The building in which this space is located is an iconic and landmark structure and has its own set of challenges on site, a steel structure and low heights being some of them. Since the building had its own character, we had to ensure that the new space complemented the overall look of the building but had its own unique identity. Acoustics, lighting and cutting-edge technology make this project unique.



Studio JAS in Prabhadevi, Mumbai

Studio JAS is a design studio that specializes in ethnic Indian craft of *Bandhanis* and *Patolas*. This studio can be accessed by appointment only. The design and environment had to complement the traditional crafts that were being displayed. The studio has a window display of the merchandise, while the back of the studio has a meeting room and space for the admin staff. The use of an old Singer sewing machine for the table base and the hand rail are some of the finer nuances of design at the store. Use of technology with Wi-fi enabled systems is another highpoint of this small space. The space has muted tones that enhance the vibrancy in this traditional display.



Goldmine Advertising, Mumbai

This creative shop had multiple units in the same building located near the Domestic Airport in Mumbai. This particular unit was supposed to house the creative team and had to be designed in a manner that was different from the rest of the offices that they owned. The client wanted an open office with a flexible layout where each space serves more than one purpose. The spaces were tactfully designed for discussions, fun and relaxation after a long hard day's work. The lighting helped in creating the right ambience. Door panels on one wall along the side of the washroom were sourced from Chor Bazaar and finished with a faded and rusted look. Graphics have been created by the creative team. The effective and maximum use of space is what differentiates this creative hub.



The Learning Curve School and Day Care, Nerul and Thane

This is a chain of preschools with 32 branches across eight locations in the West and South of India. The brief was to duplicate the school all over the country with much ease within a short span of time. The design had to be the brand ambassador for this upcoming chain of preschools. Every space had a similar layout of having a parent interaction space as you enter with a very informal and playful area for the teacher to interact and test the child seeking admission.



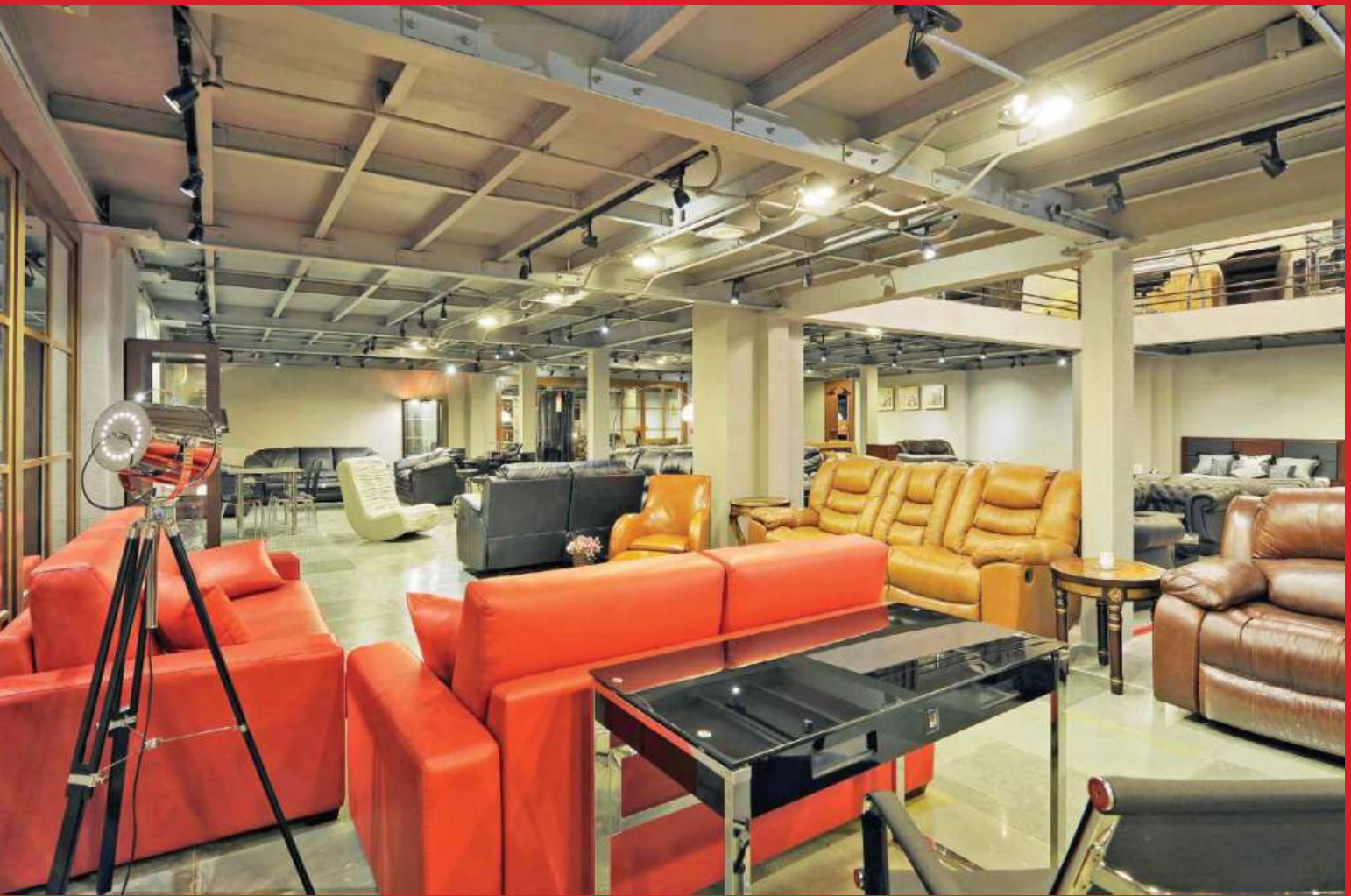


The classrooms were divided using interesting partitions with hand-painted graphics, welcoming children to an absolutely enjoyable space. Designated space within the open space is divided for the day care which requires some privacy. Spacious and adequate washrooms for the children were executed in such a manner that the kids had easy accessibility. The USP of the school is the outdoor area which has been created in each location, which is adapted depending on the site conditions.



Durian Show Room, Worli, Mumbai

The existing Durian showroom at Worli had to be revamped. The client's brief required it to be different, reflecting a contemporary design sensibility. Since the furniture is across various categories the space had to be fluid so that furniture could be rearranged to create various settings. The height on the upper level was very low due to beams running across the structure. A rough and industrial look was created with a neutral colour palette that allowed the furniture to be the center of attention, while the lighting was on tracks that could be moved and adjusted according to the need of the day.



The upper level was re-carpeted and was used to display the office furniture and some office chairs. The lower level with its double-height cutout was used to create visual drama for the customer when they entered the store. The existing Kota flooring was polished to reflect a high-gloss and retain the original character of this structure. The metal truss was cleaned and painted to merge with the natural colour palette but still retain its original character. The challenge was that the work had to be done in parts as the showroom could not be shut for business.



Sleek International, Mumbai

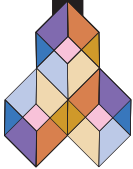
Sleek International a leading Indian modular kitchen brand decided to move their offices from an old loft building in Borivali, Mumbai to another location in Jogeshwari. The change of location meant moving from nine small units to two large contiguous units, from different departments spread over nine units combining them all as one cohesive team in the new premises. The move allowed them to put together a new DNA for the new entity that embodied the best of 'who they were and who they would be'. This was the brief given by the client. This meant to deconstruct the very basis of their being and create a new space that spoke of a new culture where competence and capability were the basis of the future, all cabins except the top three in the company were broken down to create an open office.





Areas for working, interaction, training and collaboration and meetings spaces both formal and informal were created. The reception area created a backdrop for their application area, a space that showcased their capability and competence. Finishes used were from their manufacturing palette. The end result is an environment that works for all the users both internal and external.

Through their growing portfolio and evolving approach to design, ARI Designs is all set to scale new heights in the field of design. ■



MINIMALISTIC DESIGNS

MODEL, ACTRESS AND ENTREPRENEUR **SAYALI BHAGAT'S** NEW DELHI HOME IS A FINE EXAMPLE OF FUSING SIMPLE DESIGNS AND ELEGANT INTERIORS.

Text: Ekatmata Sharma **Photographs:** Manoj Kesharwani

For actress **Sayali Bhagat**, shifting to Delhi after marriage was an altogether special experience. A bigger home and open spaces was a delight for Sayali, like any other Mumbaite. Sayali revamped the entire floor where she shifted after her wedding. "It's a newly-weds floor, so it had to be very young. I wanted a reason to stay home and this was my only priority while doing up my floor," enthuses Sayali, who stays with her in-laws in a three storey bungalow in Gurgaon. This eight-year-old bungalow is spread over an area of 7,000 sq. ft. The all white structure has three floors, where Sayali and her husband Navneet Pratap Singh stay on the second floor. "I strongly believe home is where my heart is. I believe in it more, as I had the option of doing up the interiors of my floor. So I could choose to have a very large bathroom, a home theatre, a book gallery and a walk-in wardrobe," she shares.

Although it's an old home, the interiors are modern and trendy. The ground floor is elegant and classy with white walls and features minimalistic furniture pieces in similar colour tones. The drawing room and the dining area have furniture in black and white leather combination that adds an interesting contrast. The floor is approached through an internal lift or an elevator that connects the entire home. The floor is divided into a home-theatre room, a lounge, a study room, a walk-in wardrobe, a jacuzzi fitted-bathroom and a bedroom. Designed in a modern style, the living room is divided into two sections with a lower and upper deck. The lower deck is more lively and chic while the upper deck is warm and cosy.





"I have created small areas for entertainment, be it cinema, a leather bar, an outside terrace, candle stands, or jacuzzi for two of us," says Sayali. She was also very particular about lighting and the furniture.

On the lower deck is the home-theatre room and the upper deck is the lounge, which she fondly calls the front row and the balcony respectively. "Although it's on the same floor, every area has its own character. So, I decided on wooden flooring for wardrobe area and lounge, white tiles and Italian marble for living room and the bedroom," informs Sayali. She has sourced furniture from **Stanley**, like the chocolate brown sofa and artistic wooden table on the lower deck. In this room, a mirror wall faces a well-lit rectangular wall panel. The two decks are divided by a folding glass door. On the upper deck, the large wall-size windows with green silk curtains and green leather sofa from Stanley make a good combination of leather and silk. The room has a leather bar cabinet and small leather trunks in one of the corners. She tells, "Both the areas open up as one, so it is my favourite area to hang out alone or with family and friends."

The upper deck opens up to the bedroom with its mirrored doors. The bedroom is intimate with a high-cushioned bed, wooden *almirah*, a walk-in-wardrobe and further a bathroom with a Jacuzzi. "My favourite space to unwind is the Jacuzzi. I watch a movie, read a book, sip wine or listen to music while taking a warm bath in Delhi winters," she shares.





The entire home is designed as per *vastu* principles. "We believe in it totally. The design of the floor, bed position all are *vastu* complaint and the colours used mostly green, pinks, peaches and white are Feng Shui complaint. Green especially is a colour of revival of new energy, very recharging for my home," she tells.

Though the home is eight-years-old, but its interiors have been refurbished as per the modern trends making it a functional and contemporary home for its habitants. ■



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INTERACTIVE SPACE

THE **PAPER BOAT'S** OFFICE IN BENGALURU IS A JOYFUL BLEND OF CONTEMPORARY, VIVACIOUS AND RUSTIC STYLES.

Text: Apoorva Somaiah
Photographs: Courtesy The Firm



Walking into **Paper Boat's** corporate office in Bengaluru is like walking down the memory lane... it brings back memories of flying kites, floating boats and dreamy skies. Fondly called the Finchely Castle, this office strikes a perfect balance between simplicity and contemporary styles.

This 7,500 sq. ft. office located in the plush Whitefield Road in Bengaluru, is anything but a regular office space. Explaining the concept behind this office **Neeraj Kakkar**, CEO and founder of **Hector Beverages** says, "Pretty much like everything associated with Paper Boat, our office too evokes a sense of nostalgia and an old-world charm. We have different spaces dedicated to different functions."

Speaking about the minimalist appeal of the office, Neeraj says "Since the interiors of the office were all white, we have used vibrant colours to break the monotony. We assigned the students of Sristi School of Design, to create a number of murals and art in order to create a quirky and vivacious decor." From pillars designed to look like Natraj pencils to Pac-Mania on the walls, every corner unfolds a story. "We have always been avid lovers of the *Malgudi* days and our walls bear a testimony to that." adds Neeraj.





3

1
The exterior façade of the bungalow. Note the pillars above painted to look like pencils.

2
The splash of red in the corridor with muted colours brings the space alive.

3
The lounge area-cum-library features various patterns and colours that dominates the space.

4
Low colourful seating with quirky decor artefacts dominate the lounge area. The wooden seating lends a rustic touch.



4



5

5
The breakout area with playful wall art. Note the use of cushions that add a comfort factor.



6

6
The breakout area with eclectic colours.

The wooden furniture creates a sense of warmth. There are no doors, making each space accessible to everyone. Paper Boat's office stands true to the ideologies of the drink. Contemporary yet rustic, the office is a comfortable yet professional space. Airy rooms with ample sunlight streaming in, along with lush green outdoors and a pool to take a dip when the mercury soars.

Paper Boat's office is a home away from home. "We have lovingly and painstakingly made each room an experience, with paintings reminiscent of the innocence of childhood, adorning the wall," concludes Neeraj. ■



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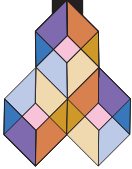
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WARM AND ELEGANT

AR. ASHISH KUBER DILIGENTLY DESIGNS
A WELL-APPOINTED OFFICE FOR **GOKHALE**
CONSTRUCTIONS & PROPERTIES PVT. LTD, IN PUNE.

Text: Marina Correa **Photographs:** Courtesy The Architect



Mustard yellow upholstered chairs, bamboo poles and potted plants impart a relaxing vibe to the reception-cum-waiting area.

W

ith the construction sector booming especially in satellite towns and cities, the 15,000 sq. ft. office of **Gokhale Constructions & Properties Pvt. Ltd.**, reflects this upward rising trend with aplomb. The office spread across three levels is located in the prime locality of Prabhat Road, Pune. Designed by Pune-based architect **Ashish Kuber** of **Variance**, the office space resonates a modern and customer-centric image of the developer. The brief required the architect to design a modern and functionally-efficient, yet warm and inviting workspace.

Spread over three-levels, the office is segregated floor-wise into different functional pockets; thereby defining the role of each floor. "This allowed us to streamline the look and ambience of each floor based on its function," shares Ashish Kuber, principal, Variance.

This stylish lobby leads to the reception area.







3

3
The accounts area
has a neat and
functional look.



4

4
Various interpretations
of 'wooden ribs' in the
MD's cabin make for
interesting elements.

5
Wood and leather
lend a sophisticated
touch to the
MD's cabin.

6
The director's
cabin also
exudes an equally
power-packed vibe.

Public versus private spaces were tactfully streamlined. Since the first floor receives maximum inflow of customers, the reception area, sales & redevelopment departments and discussion room are housed on this level. The second floor has the staff area that includes the HR department, purchase and engineering departments with a 15-seater conference room being the only public space on this floor. The third floor is the executive floor with an executive waiting lounge, cabins for the two directors and also the accounts and legal departments.





7

The sales cabin is a functional space on the first floor.

8

The waiting area deviates from the otherwise muted palette.

9

Note the admirable leather panelling on one of the walls in the conference room.

10

Splashes of lime green colour on the upholstery add zest to the training room.



Earthy shades of brown, beige and grey along with white and black form an overall sober colour palette. Splashes of colours such as lime green and mustard yellow have been introduced in the form of chairs in certain informal spaces like the waiting areas and training room. Veneer in two mildly contrasting shades has been used by and large to create a warm and sophisticated ambience. White Duco with polyurethane coating has been used at intervals to provide a more obvious contrast and avoid monotony.



9



10



11



12



13

11

The formal look right at the main entrance aptly reflects the interiors.

12

Attractive flooring and lighting keep things warm and inviting.

13

Trees and planters on the terrace heighten the overall aesthetics. The alfresco dining area on the terrace is a perfect space to relax.

In the executive areas, elements like wooden flooring, metallic wallpaper in warm tones and wooden motorised blinds have been used to enhance the elegance and plush ambience of these spaces. Backlit onyx features have been used in the reception and MD's cabin to lend a luxurious aura. The sofas and chairs too adhere to this warm colour palette adding to the elegance of the executive areas.

In the conference room, leather panels and a high-density carpet has been used to enhance the acoustics. These customised leather panels in earthy tones with textural contrasts form a subtle yet interesting design feature in this formal setting. The lift lobbies clad in dark polished marble make for another striking feature on each floor. Glass has been used judiciously to lighten the look without compromising on the sound and visual privacy.

Various interpretations of 'wooden ribs' are used as a thematically unifying design elements across all three floors despite their basic functional differences. For instance, the horizontal white ribs on the side of the MD's table or the vertical bamboo ribs in the waiting area or the horizontal blinds lend privacy to the sales cabin.



All modern technical aspects like CCTV monitoring, fire alarm system, biometric access control system, centralised music system and projection systems have also been provided to make it a well-appointed, modern office just as the client envisaged it to be. ■



AR. ASHISH KUBER

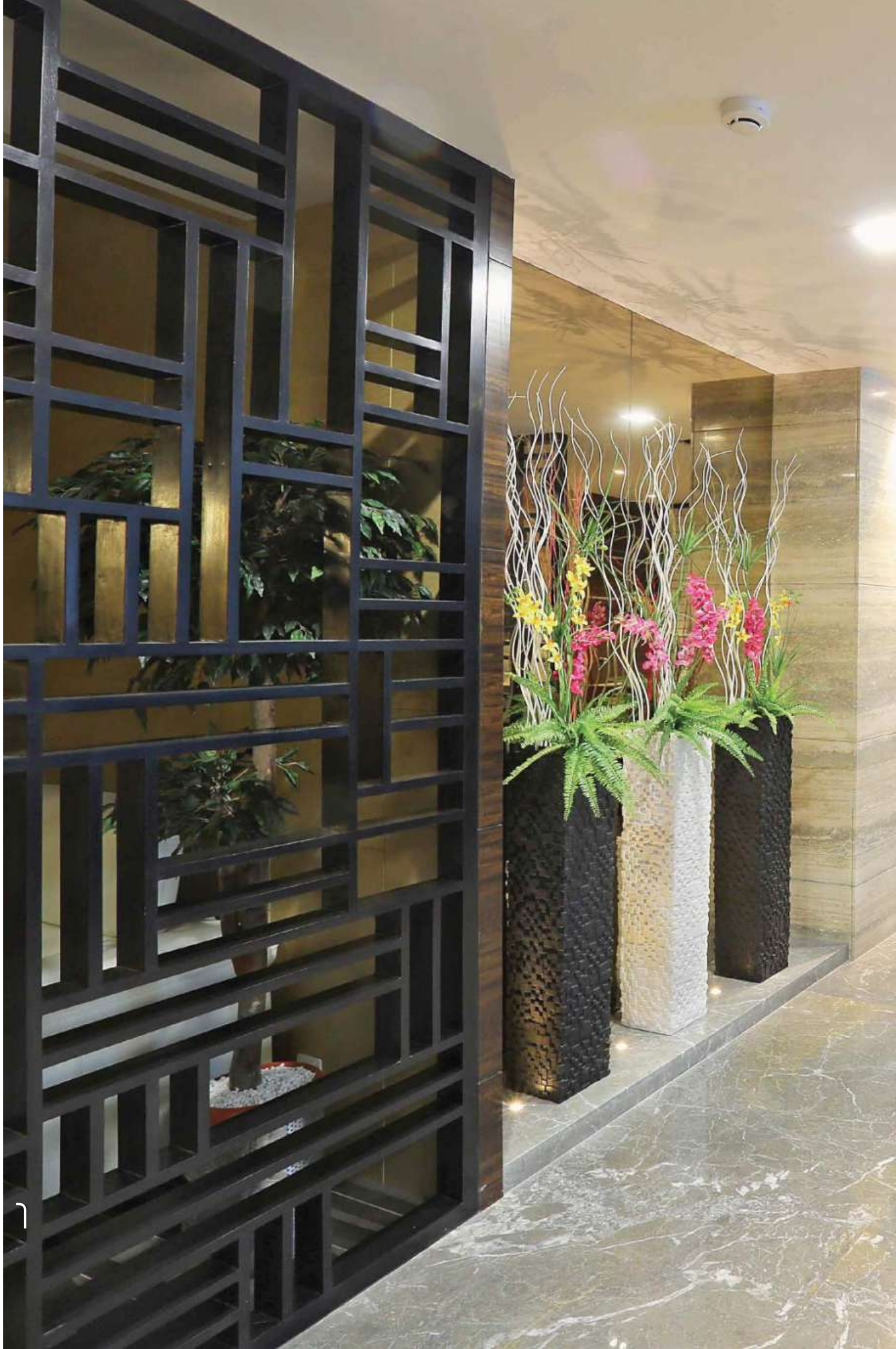
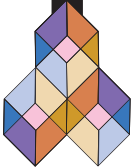


Variance is Pune-based interior design firm headed by Ashish Kuber. The firm has successfully executed several residential, commercial and corporate projects since its inception. They generally follow a modern design vocabulary with great emphasis placed on minute details and client satisfaction.

VARIANCE

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Passage leading to the executive block, boardroom and cabins. Note the use of stone, wood and etched glass.



STYLISH YET FUNCTIONAL

KOLKATA-BASED ARCHITECT **AMIT JAIN**
BLENDS CREATIVITY WITH FUNCTIONALITY FOR
RAUSHEENA UDYOG'S CORPORATE OFFICE.

Text: Sudeshna Chakravarty **Photographs:** Studio WB

Rausheena Udyog Limited's corporate office designed by Kolkata-based architect **Amit Jain** of **Studio WB** spreads over a sprawling area of 6,300 sq. ft. The company deals in varied avenues right from manufacturing of baby products to electrical goods, etc.

2

The state-of-the-art MD's cabin has stylish contemporary decor.

3

Executive lounge has a warm and inviting feel.



4

The security
reception
further
leads
to the
reception
area.

5

The
executive
cabin
blends
aesthetics
with
functionality.







6

The Chairman's cabin has ample natural light. Note the well-crafted wooden ceiling in the chairman's cabin.

7

The meeting room has a graphic wall that showcase nuts, bolts, screws reflecting the company's business.

8

General staff area has a graphics image of the genome reflecting the company's business.

9

The Boardroom has pristine white decor that is accentuated by blue led lights.



9



The swanky office is stylish as well as functional. Lending insight into the design details, Amit says, "It is an L-shaped block which has been segregated into two wings because of its shape. The wing on the right side of the reception houses senior cabins like the chairman and MD cabin, conference room, the lounge, the record room and server room. The wing on the left of the reception has linear work stations, executive chambers, sample room, mandir, etc." The entire office is flooded with natural light because the façade of the building is entirely made of glass. This gives the space a dignified yet cheerful ambience.

The office is designed to make it very functional so that movement through the office is easy with ample storage space. "The space has been designed to optimize usability of space and convenience of staff. Good design is a combination of aesthetic elements and practicality," stresses Amit. ■



AR. AMIT JAIN



Studio WB is one of the oldest and most well-known Interior designing firms started by interior architect Ajit Jain and later by his son Amit Jain. Amit showcased his talent by putting in design ideas into his father's designs as a child. He won the Best Student Award at the CooloolaSunshine Institute of Tafe from Queensland, Australia from where he graduated in interior architecture.

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STYLISH LIVING

NEW DELHI-BASED STORE **CONTEMPO
INTERIORS BY CARVING AND GLIDING**
OFFERS RARE NEO-CLASSIC AND
CONTEMPORARY STYLED FURNITURE.

Text: Trisha Mahajan
Photographs: Sahil Markhan

The store of **Contempo Interiors by Carving and Gliding** spreads over an area of 15,000 sq. ft. over two floors. It is a one-stop solution for handmade and state-of-the-art imported furniture from Italy, South East Asia, France and several towns in England. They also offer a range of unusual furnishings and accessories suitable for homes and offices. The store specializes in leather furniture offering a wide range of leather sofas and easy chairs in different colours and style. The store has interesting floor and ceiling lights, metal table and side lamps, fascinating decor pieces, bird chandeliers, lion chairs to low-height sofas, mirrors, lavish beds, dining tables, corporate table setup, cage chandeliers, square and circular carved tables just to name a few. In addition, customers can also get the pieces customized as per their requirements.

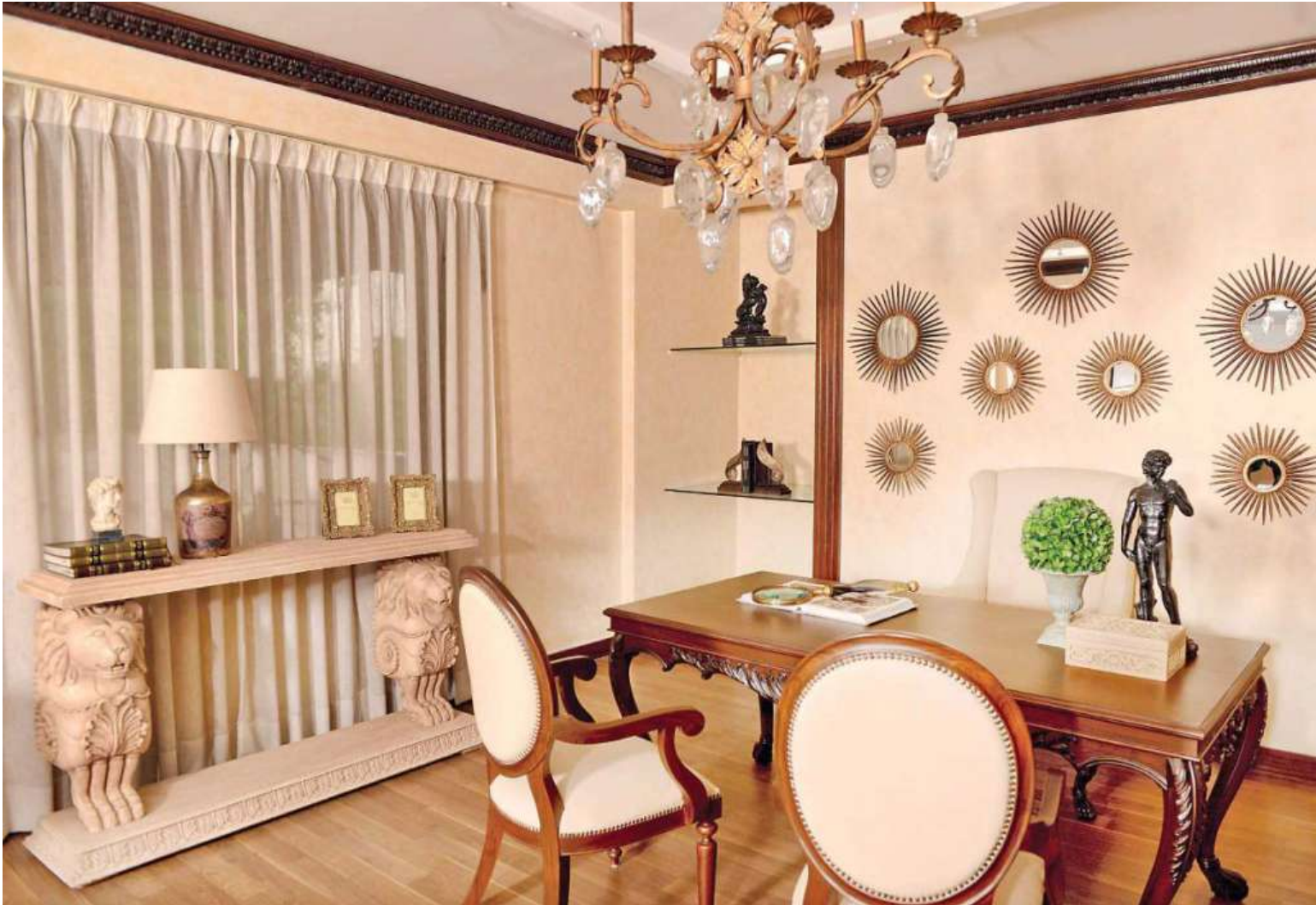




Contempo Interiors retails in unique classical design which is inspired by the palaces, museums from Vatican, details of the Neo-classical, Renaissance era to Baroque design. The entire store is housed on first and second floor and is segregated into three different sections with each section displaying a separate look. As one enters the first floor, Neo-classical furniture pieces are on display, while the Renaissance-styled furniture is on the left side of the floor. Soft contemporary furniture finds its own space on the other side of the floor. For the young clientele, urban chic furniture is displayed on the second floor. The areas have been set up as living spaces so that customers can easily visualize the look, keeping in mind their own homes.



Right from shades of brown, black, blue, green to beige, each section boasts of a different colour palette that has been especially decided keeping in mind the collection that the segment consists of. In fact, lighting in each area too complements the look. Flooring and walls on all floors have deliberately been kept plain in order to let the furniture do the talking.



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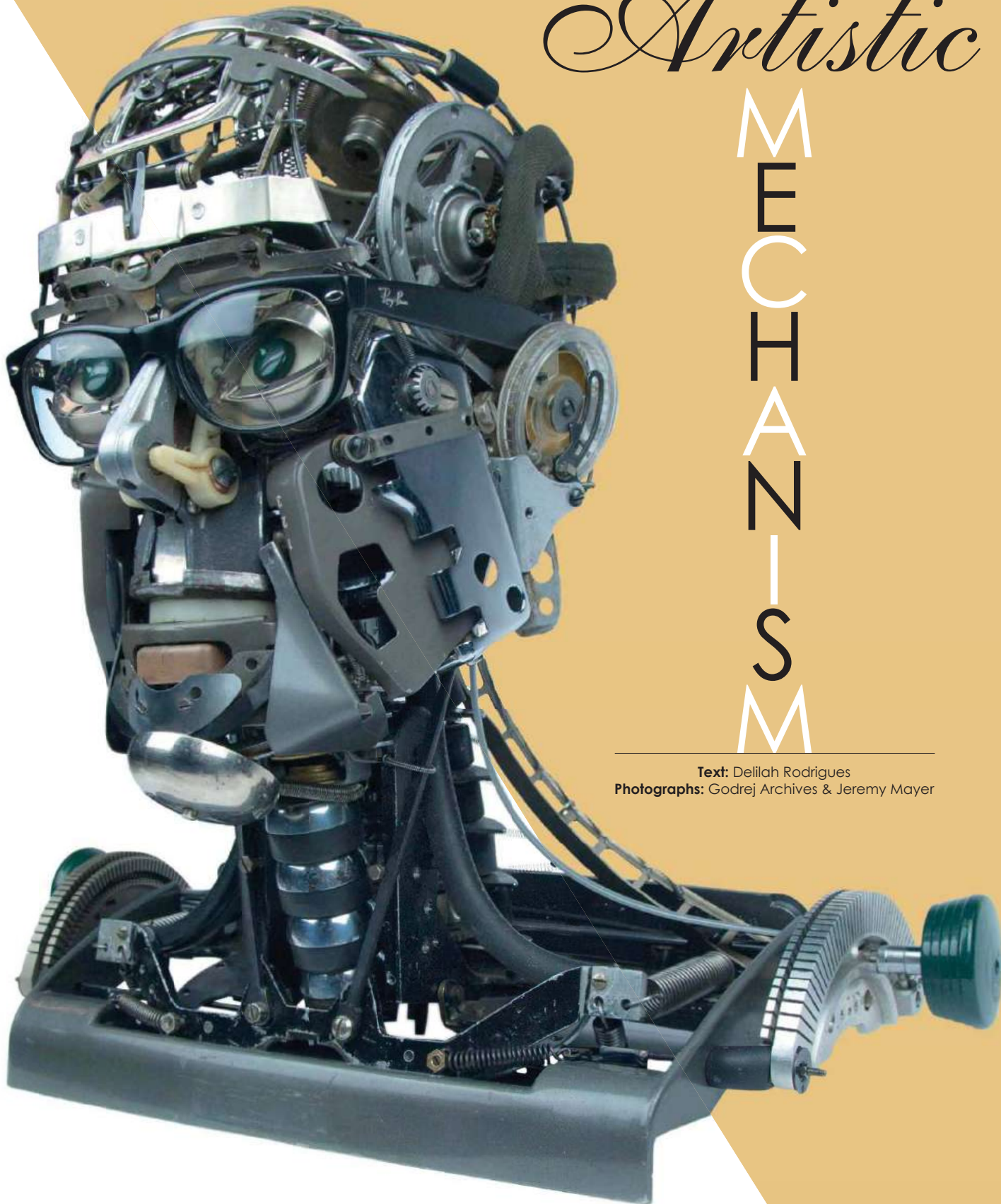
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Contempo Interiors' prime focus lies in offering outstanding quality sturdy furniture to the customers that will last for generations, can be passed as heirloom or antiques yet are maintained in terms of their old-world charm. "We strongly believe in no shortcuts to success and treat each piece with personal attention. Our focus would always be to increase our family of satisfied customers and keep maintaining our reputation which we have earned in the past 18 years", says store owner **Gita Chandhok**.

Overall, the store with its entire range will definitely mesmerize anyone who walks in with the idea of owning something which is stylish yet has a personal touch. ■



Artistic

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Text: Delilah Rodrigues

Photographs: Godrej Archives & Jeremy Mayer



California-based sculptor Jeremy Mayer challenges conventional thinking. With a penchant for creating incredibly unique and complex sculptures by using defunct typewriters, Jeremy developed his own design language. Through these unique pieces, he lends a new perspective to the design world. Jeremy recently collaborated with Godrej for Artist in Residence, a special project by Godrej & Boyce. He, thus, gave unused type writers a new lease of life by crafting a 13-foot tall metallic Lotus. *Society Interiors* caught up with the artist to ask him about how he honed and developed his style over the years and his collaboration with Godrej.

Your choice of material is unusual. How has your work and style developed over the years?

Initially, I would find this work very painstaking but over the years, I have developed my expertise. I think the core approach to my work has stayed the same; I like simplicity, graphic boldness, humour, movement, etc. My work has become more symbolic.

Would you always be loyal to the typewriter, or would you explore other mediums?

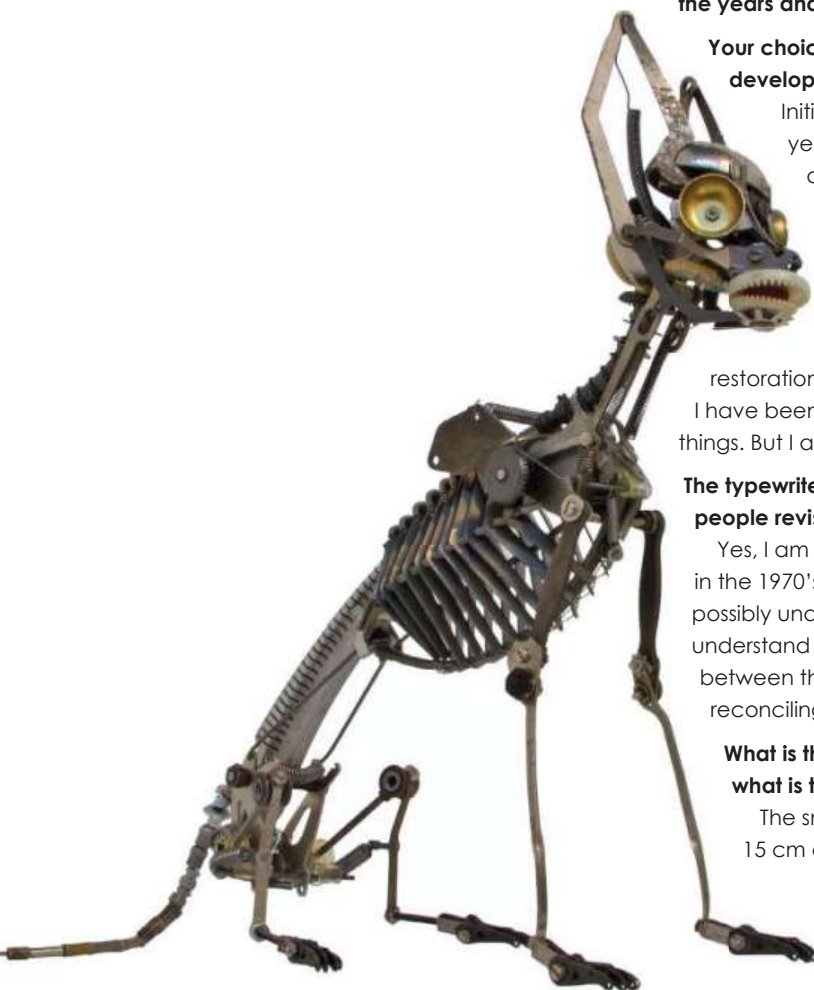
I am trained in many other mediums like stained glass restoration, package design, traditional sculpture, to name a few. I have been approached to design with parts of cars and other things. But I am not interested in repurposing anything else.

The typewriter is a symbol of the bygone era. Did you intend to help people revisit the past through your sculptures?

Yes, I am trying to describe the struggle of someone who is born in the 1970's. I belong to a generation where my parents can never possibly understand the digital world and my daughter will never understand the world my parents lived in. There is a vast difference between the three generations and my sculptures are my way of reconciling my own place in this period of history.

What is the smallest and largest sculpture designed by you and what is the time span taken to complete a sculpture?

The smallest sculptures are the birds which are about 15 cm and the largest is the 13-foot tall metallic Lotus for Godrej.





I would say a full-size human figure generally takes about 1000 to 1200 or 1400 hours, whereas the smaller pieces take about 2 weeks to 3 months.

Which other sculptors and artists do you admire?

There are many, Anish Kapoor, Mark Beyer, Tom Sachs, Da Vinci, M. C. Escher, Jacob Epstein are a few of them.

You recently designed the Lotus sculpture for Godrej. Tell our readers more about the project.

This 13-feet tall metallic Lotus has been sculpted using parts from 60 Godrej typewriters manufactured in the last batch by Godrej & Boyce. The sculpture created under the 'Artist in Residence' programme, consists of 15 petals, each being made from more than 200 parts of typewriters. The sculpture is inspired by the Godrej Archive ethos.

What was the reason behind your choice of the lotus?

I chose the lotus because it is a popular symbol worldwide and not just the flower of India. It is also part of American experiences. I wanted to share with the world these experiences and my thoughts on the intersection of spirituality, technology and the science of kinetics. ■

CONTACT DETAILS

www.jeremymayer.com





CREATIVE JOURNEY

NEW DELHI-BASED INTERIOR DESIGNER
**PUNAM KALRA OF I'M CENTRE FOR
APPLIED ARTS** LENDS INSIGHTS ON HER
JOURNEY AS AN INTERIOR DESIGNER
AND HER UNIQUE DESIGNS.

Text: Trisha Mahajan

Photographs: Courtesy The Interior Designer



Over the years interior designer **Punam Kalra** of **I'm Centre for Applied Arts** has constantly experimented with materials either in their pure forms or in various combinations to create interesting products. Her unique designs reflect functionality, modernity, detailing, and creativity. *Society Interiors* speaks to Punam about her unique offerings and more...





How did you venture into the interior design segment?

I got married soon after completing my Bachelor of Engineering from Delhi College of Engineering and thereafter joined NTPC as a junior engineer. I was comfortable with my job but it soon got monotonous, the spark was missing. Being an architect, my husband fueled my underlying creative urge and encouraged me to think differently and realize my dreams. My husband and my mother have always inspired me. Having completed 21 years now, my unconventional work reflects a combination of elements and has a fresh approach.

Tell our readers more about I'm Centre for Applied Arts.

I'm Centre for Applied Arts started as a product design centre with varied design philosophies by various designers. We brought to the forefront concepts and designs that were modern, post-modern, playful, fun and highly stylized. Art and design shows were held from time to time exposing the viewer to various possibilities. After a few years, the focus shifted to customizing products to suit the requirements of the client. My versatility in various mediums and styles came to the forefront and new ideas took shape. Today, I work on private residences, offices, commercial spaces, etc.



Your designs are unique. What makes you a leader in the interior domain?

My engineering background enables me to combine unusual materials, achieve difficult forms and think without any limitations. Metal, wood, glass, stone, acrylic, ceramic, enameled copper, molten metal, all have been exhaustively used in my work either individually or in combinations. A painting, sculpture or installation can influence my designs, while acceptance of newness and the urge to experiment provides unique solutions.

In terms of finishes and materials for furniture, what according to you is the trend of the year?

Straight lined furniture with detailing, matte finishes, a warm colour palette, textures and solid colours with least usage of patterns would be this year's trend. Plated steel is the latest material on the design horizon. Other than this, wood, stone, painted surfaces, glass and mirror finishes would forever be there. Their coatings can transform them from ordinary to ultra-glamorous.

Any upcoming projects and furniture pieces you plan to design this year?

At the moment, I am handling residences, offices and commercial spaces, all with a different focus on material and designs. ■

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FUNCTIONAL EDGE

BHAVYA SHAH, HEAD OF BRAND MARKETING, **SIEMENS HOME APPLIANCES** SPEAKS TO **SOCIETY INTERIORS** ABOUT THE KITCHEN SEGMENT AND THEIR NEWEST OFFERINGS.

Text: Delilah Rodrigues

Photographs: Courtesy Siemens Home Appliances



Bhavya Shah

How has the perception of kitchens changed today?

An individual spends a considerable amount of time in the kitchen. Additionally, kitchens today serve as a place for both leisure and entertainment. Realizing this, homeowners are willing to dedicate budgets in designing and customizing kitchens, which are a combination of aesthetics and smart technology. Kitchens are transforming into the new social space as customers today like to flaunt their kitchens, just like other areas of their home.

Energy-efficient products have become the need of the hour. Elaborate.

Power-saving kitchen appliances are soon catching up and gaining popularity globally. Continual research and innovations in technology and design reduce the amount of energy required by appliances like refrigerators, ovens and dishwashers. While an energy-efficient kitchen appliance usually costs marginally more than regular products at the outset, your energy savings can total up considerably for utility bills over the course of the appliance's lifespan. There are a wide range of energy-efficient hobs, hoods, dishwashers and ovens available in the market. For instance, in the Siemens range of flexinduction hobs, only areas which are in contact with the cooking vessel are active at any particular time, saving energy efficiently.





How according to you has the Indian consumer evolved when it comes to the kitchen segment?

Indian consumers are increasingly progressing towards having a smart kitchen that essentially combines cutting-edge technology, efficiency and style. One of the most notable trends seen today in India, is the transformation of the kitchen into the new living room. Consumers want to showcase their kitchen just like their home and thus want it to be luxurious, a lifestyle symbol and have futuristic technology. The iQ700 range of Siemens caters to these aspirational Indians who want their kitchen to be the show-stopper at home. Also, India has a sizeable population of well-travelled people who, on returning to India, wish to own appliances similar to what they have used and experienced abroad. Consumers today, are increasingly beginning to understand that built-in appliances help manage space better at home and can help make even a small space look larger, luxurious and aesthetic. The idea is to move ahead with time and opt for modern appliances that reflect your personal style. Far from being a strictly utilitarian corner of the house, today's kitchens are a hub for family and guest activity. The contemporary Indian kitchen is slowly transforming into a haven that fits the homeowner's lifestyle, whilst simultaneously making day-to-day functioning convenient.

Tell our readers about the latest range on offer.

We have launched the iQ700 Series, which has a range of Ovens, Combi Microwave Ovens, Combi Steam Ovens and Microwaves. The cutting-edge designs, luxurious features and ace technology will definitely refine your cooking experience. With innovative cooking functions, the iQ700 ovens range makes cooking easier and comforting.

What makes the iQ700 Series ovens stand out from other products in the market?

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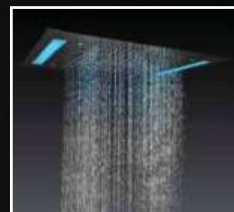
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DESIGN

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Traditional TOUCH

OWARA – SPICE OF LIFE,
A NEW RESTAURANT IN NASHIK USES
TRADITIONAL WARLI PAINTINGS
WITH A MODERN TWIST.

Text: Priya A. Prabhu
Photographs: Milind Deshmukh



W

hen it comes to restaurants, one mostly expects good food and pleasant ambience. But **Owara – Spice Of Life**, a new restaurant on the outskirts of Nashik offers unparalleled experience of traditional art, culture and contemporary design. Designed by **Ar. Dhananjay Pawar** and his wife, interior designer **Priyanka Pawar** of Nashik-based firm **Synecotics Architects Pvt. Ltd.**, Owara is one of the first Warli themed restaurants in Maharashtra. The restaurant is managed by **Nandini Dinettes & Resorts Pvt. Ltd.**, and owned by **Sunil Dhovavkar** and **Girish Poddar**.

The word 'Owara' means kitchen as per the Warli theme. The owners during the course of their travel and frequent visits to the Warli settlements observed that the tradition is becoming extinct and needs more attention. Hence, they chose to encourage the traditional art by designing it as the theme of their restaurant.

The restaurant is spread across an area of 11, 000 sq. ft. On the exterior, the structure is clad in stone, contemporary material shera planks and MS steel which acts as a bridge between traditional and contemporary elements.

On the interiors, the space has four dining areas—Garden Seating, Main Plinth Seating, *Kopchi* (a hide-out section) and a Mini Banquet. At the entrance, the patrons are welcomed by a mannequin (Warli couple) with traditional cobble stone flooring and a *tulsi vrindwan*. The royal entrance has a double-height wedge shape frame tattooed with Warli paintings. Further a glass bridge with a fish pond beneath leads you to the garden seating and to the main plinth seating.

The main entrance divides the garden seating in two parts, which is further divided into nine levels. Each level is elevated by nine inches. At the rare side of the restaurant is the museum that displays Warli culture through the display of jewellery, pottery, musical instruments, household items, weapons, Warli sculptures with an information leaflet. The traditional wooden doors with actual bamboo handles welcome you to the main plinth seating area.

Characterized by typical Warli huts, this seating area has bamboo design embossed on MDF panel with indirect LED lights placed at different heights. The East wall which is called Bohada wall (Bohada is a mask festival of tribes in Thane and Nashik district) has traditional Bohada masks aesthetically displayed.

The Warli painting on each table depict a different tale. The opposite wall in this area has a huge Warli painting with a staircase guiding you on first floor that holds the mini banquet hall-cum-disco theque.

The *Kopchi* is a cosy and private seating arrangement that has been designed for youngsters and couples. This area has wine bottles of varied colours actually cut and placed in the ceiling which lends a dramatic light effect all throughout the day as well as in the evening. The *Kopchi* area has *shahbad* and *tandoor* flooring and furniture in bright colour laminates. The mini banquet hall cum-disco theque located on the first floor has a cut-off lobby to avoid sound spill.





The window slits on the exterior is catered as a design element inside. The lines are protruded on all walls as well as on ceiling with indirect lighting to lend a dramatic ambience.

Lightings play a vital role in this project. Adding more insights on the same, Dhananjay says, "The hanging chandeliers are made from filter paper with different food colours which neatly segregate the dining areas. Like for example, the main plinth seating has chandeliers in orange, garden seating has chandelier in green and the *Kopchi* seating has chandeliers in pink."

Restaurant walls have been painted in a dark brown colour palette that symbolizes the mud which is found in the Sahyadri ranges. Olive green tints used, symbolizes the colour of cow dung usually used in villages. Light and dark tints of these two colours have been used overall in order to depict the village ambience. The interior and exterior walls of Owara consist of over 450 paintings that show the life cycle of human beings from birth to death along with paintings that showcase the activities such as farming, weddings, hunting, festivals etc. Priyanka says, "The logo of this restaurant has been designed by the world-famous calligraphist Achyut Palav, all the paintings have been drawn by Warli artist Sunil Kharpade, while Bhagwan Kadu, a famous International Warli sculpturist has created sculptures and masks that depict the Adivasi art and culture." As far as their cuisine is considered, Owara is a multi-cuisine restaurant serving cuisines like Indian, Chinese, Thai and Italian.

The space amalgamates both modern life and traditional values, greatly contributing in providing a rustic ambience that is close to nature. ■

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AR. **VARSHA PRABHU** SCOOPS OUT MORE SPACE
THROUGH HER IMAGINATIVE APPROACH
IN **MIRCO VILLAS (ECR)** IN CHENNAI.

Text: CSS Latha **Photographs:** Vishal J

Micro studio apartments are a popular concept in cities like New York and San Francisco, where a studio apartment measures 300 to 220 sq. ft. But these days, tiny doesn't necessarily mean crummy and cramped. In fact, some of the micro-apartments are not just functionally-efficient but are very cost-effective. Following a similar concept, Chennai-based **Vimosh Developers** and architect **Varsha Prabhu** of **4D Designs** have introduced the international concept of studio apartments in the city.

Located on the East Coast road in Chennai,

Mirco Villas (ECR) are stylish and affordable apartments strategically located in Nemelli, which is connected to the IT highway and is a 4 minute drive to the famous Japanese township.

The 12-acre gated habitat has 10,000 sq. ft. clubhouse space and CCTV surveillance, private theatre and gymnasium; the apartments vary in plinth area.





Measuring 472 sq. ft., these apartments are ground-plus one units, with a sleek kitchen that provides ample storage space for appliances and accessories. The living room is on the ground level, while the bedroom has a cantilevered bed that projects out over the living room. The bedroom has a rooftop deck that opens into a garden. A wall-mounted LCD unit on one of the walls makes it a perfect space to lounge on the rooftop.

The open and airy apartment has ample free-flow of light and air. The apartment is surrounded by well-laid out lawns and trees. A swimming pool and children's play area too are well-planned. The interiors are interesting in the form of unique space saving devices like the storage facility under the stairway, the sitting including the bay window space which is well-utilized. There are display units on either sides, all done for an effective usage of available space and also add aesthetics to it.

In all, an interesting concept created around micro-spaced studio apartments. ■

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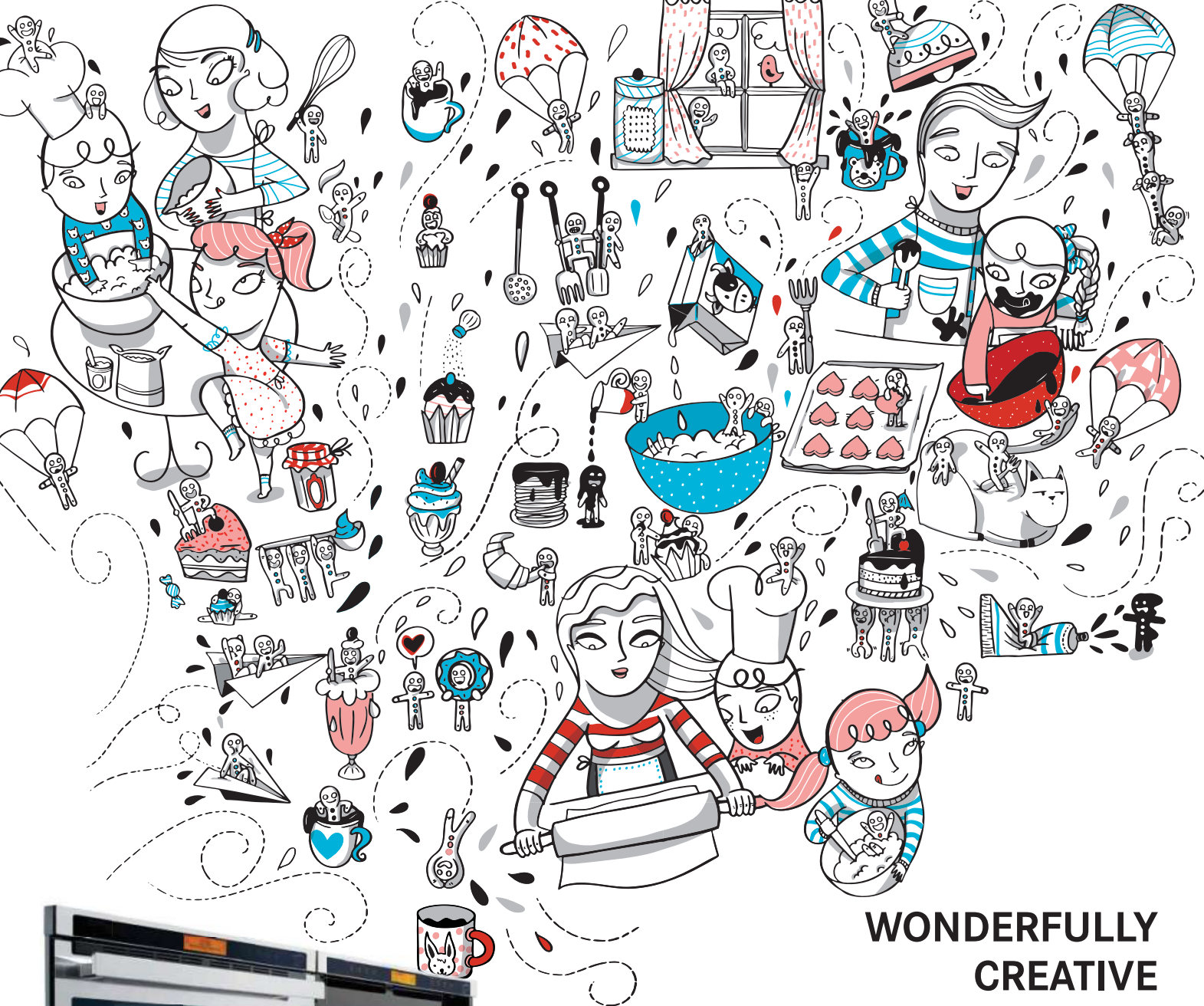
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